February 16, 2016

Dear [Redacted] [s.40(1)]

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 [Our File #: PRE/6/2016]

On January 26, 2016, the Premier’s Office received your request for access to the following records/information:

“All information, records, correspondence related to The Premier's Task force on Educational Outcomes as referenced.”

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Premier’s Office to provide access to some of the requested information. A portion of the records responsive to this request are cabinet records and therefore access to pages 21-32 are withheld in accordance with the following exceptions to disclosure, as specified in the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act), which states:

27. (1) In this section, "cabinet record" means

(h) a record created during the process of developing or preparing a submission for the Cabinet; and

(2) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose to an applicant

(a) a cabinet record;

Portions of the attached information, including pages 3-5, are considered personal information and have been removed in accordance with subsection 40(1) of the Act, which states:

40.(1) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant where the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.
As required by 8(2) of the Act, we have severed information that is unable to be disclosed and have provided you with as much information as possible. In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the appropriate copies have been enclosed.

You may appeal this decision and ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the decision to provide partial access to the requested information, as set out in section 42 of the Act (a copy of this section of the Act has been enclosed for your reference). 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 appeal should identify your concerns with the request and why you are submitting the appeal.

The appeal 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

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 (a copy of this section of the Act has been enclosed for your reference).

Responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you. It is the goal to have the responsive records posted to the Office of Public Engagement's 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)729-3570 or by e-mail at joybuckle@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Joy Buckle
ATIPP Coordinator

Enc.
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).
Thank you, Virginia.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2016, at 12:48 PM, Premier, <Premier@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Dear [Name] - 40(1)
Thank you for your email, with attached resume, to Premier Ball regarding the education system in our province and also indicating your interest in the Premier's Task Force on improving educational outcomes. I wish to advise you that your correspondence will be brought to the Premier's attention at the earliest opportunity.

Regards,
Virginia Connors
Office of the Premier

From: [Name]
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 12:14 PM
To: Premier,
Cc: Inquiries, general; Dean, Jerry
Subject: Education System Review

Mr. Ball,

I can only imagine the number of emails the Premier of our Province must receive on a daily basis. I also realize that each one of them must be reviewed and scrutinized before being deemed worthy of your actual viewing. I am optimistic that my email will reach you, personally, as well as your Minister of Education and member for Exploits District, who I have CC'ed in this email.

...and have plenty of vim and vigour left, but my disillusionment with our education system was the driving force in persuading me to leave. I had built a very good reputation for myself as a dedicated and respected teacher over the years, and enjoyed "edutaining" students on a daily basis, but I was afraid that if I continued for much longer, I would run the risk of damaging this reputation.
I really feel, sir, that there are serious problems embedded in our education system in NL that need to be addressed as soon as possible. I am aware that your government is committed to a full review of this system, and I would very much love to be a part of that process. Please be assured, Mr. Ball, that my motives for this request are very genuine. I love my province very much and have invested [redacted] in the education of our youth and adults, and I feel very passionate about improving our education standards to such a level that we will be regarded as a progressive province in fostering an advanced approach to educating our youth. I am not speaking merely of improving our varied curriculum objectives, nor of adopting new curricula, but also of addressing the issue of student responsibility, accountability, and work ethic.

Mr. Ball, I am attaching my resume for your perusal. Should you wish to speak to me regarding my concerns and objectives, please feel free to contact me at either of the enclosed phone numbers and/or via email/text. I thank you in advance, sir, for your anticipated consideration and look forward to further conversations.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

---

"This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender."
Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding the Premier’s Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes, and for sharing your experiences as an educator in our province. In the coming months, additional information will be made available regarding the Task Force’s work as details are finalized. I appreciate your interest and advice.

Sincerely,

Dale

Dale Kirby, MHA
District of Mount Scio
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Phone: (709) 729-5040
Email: HYPERLINK "mailto:dalekirby@gov.nl.ca"dalekirby@gov.nl.ca

3rd Floor, West Block
Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John’s, NL A1B 4J6
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 12:15 PM
To: Premier,
Cc: inquiries, general; Dean, Jerry
Subject: Education System Review

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Sincerely, 40(1)
From: Premier,
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2016 3:16 PM
To: Kirby, Dale
Subject: FW: Education System Review

Minister Kirby,
Here's our acknowledgement to [redacted].
Regards,
Virginia

From: Premier,
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 12:49 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Education System Review

Dear [redacted],

Thank you for your email, with attached resume, to Premier Ball regarding the education system in our province and also indicating your interest in the Premier's Task Force on improving educational outcomes. I wish to advise you that your correspondence will be brought to the Premier's attention at the earliest opportunity.

Regards,
Virginia Connors
Office of the Premier

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[Redacted]

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Sincerely,
Premier,

From: Premier,
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 3:14 PM
To: Kirby, Dale
Subject: RE: Education System Review

Thank you. Sorry I didn’t copy you on our response. I’ll send that to you shortly.

Virginia

From: Kirby, Dale
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 2:21 PM
To: Premier,
Subject: RE: Education System Review

Dear

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding the Premier’s Task Force on Improving Educational Outcomes, and for sharing your experiences as an educator in our province. In the coming months, additional information will be made available regarding the Task Force’s work as details are finalized. I appreciate your interest and advice.

Sincerely,

Dale

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Dale Kirby, MHA
District of Mount Scio
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Phone: (709) 729-5040
Email: dalekirby@gov.nl.ca

3rd Floor, West Block
Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John’s, NL A1B 4J6

From: Premier,
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 12:15 PM
To: Premier,
Cc: inquiries, general; Dean, Jerry
Subject: Education System Review

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Sincerely,
Hi Janet,

Attached, for the attention of your Minister and Deputy Minister, is an email to Premier from [REDACTED] with attached letter indicating her interest in the Education Task Force.

Would you please have the department prepare a draft response for the Premier's signature. Kindly return the draft to premier@gov.nl.ca

Thanks,
Virginia

---------< HP TRIM Record Information >--------

Record Number: ICOR2016/0171
Title: Email to Premier from [REDACTED] with attached letter regarding her interest in the Education Task Force
Dear Premier Ball,

Please see attached
Thank You

Confidentiality Warning: This message and any attachments are intended for the sole use of the intended recipient(s), and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. If you are not an intended recipient, any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use of this message and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete the message and attachments immediately and notify the sender by return email. Thank you!

avis de confidentialité: Ce courriel, ainsi que tout renseignement ci-inclus, est destiné uniquement au(x) destinataire(s) susmentionné(s) et peut contenir de l'information confidentielle. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire prévu, tout examen, copie, impression, reproduction, distribution ou autre utilisation de ce courriel est strictement interdit. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, veuillez en aviser immédiatement l'expéditeur par retour de ce courriel et veuillez supprimer immédiatement cette communication. Merci.
Dear Premier Ball,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am a [REDACTED] teacher. I had the pleasure of meeting and speaking with you prior to the election at an Educational Forum at Holy Heart in St. John’s.

I am writing this email with the hope of gaining some information in regards to the possibility of your new task force for education. I was wondering when this task force will be developed and how the members of it will be selected.

As an educator I am very interested in becoming part of such an initiative. I have been teaching for [REDACTED] and my experience is varied as I have taught Special Education and also in the classroom at various grade levels. I believe I would bring current issues to the forefront that are significant and crucial in the field of education today.

I will also be able to provide knowledge on the parental side of education and concerns that exist in that aspect as I am a parent to [REDACTED].

Thank you for your time and consideration in regards to my request for information, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Attached is a letter to you from Premier Ball in response to your letter of January 4th regarding the Task Force on Education.

Regards,

Virginia Connors

Director of Information Management

Office of the Premier

---

From: Premier, Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 5:09 PM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: RE: Education Task Force

Hi [Redacted]

Thank you for your email and attached letter to Premier Ball regarding the task force on improving educational outcomes. I wish to advise you that your correspondence will be brought to the Premier’s attention at the earliest opportunity.

Regards,

Virginia Connors

Office of the Premier

---

From: [Redacted] Sent: Monday, January 04, 2016 10:05 AM
To: Premier
Subject: Education Task Force
January 26, 2016

FORWARD: BY EMAIL

[Redacted]

Dee:\[Redacted]\[Redacted]

Thank you for your e-mail of January 4, 2016 requesting further information on the Premier’s Task Force on Education.

The Premier’s Task Force on Education is a key component of my administration’s commitment to improving educational outcomes in Newfoundland and Labrador. I continue to work with the Honourable Dale Kirby, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, on a process that we will use to implement this initiative. We hope to release more information on the task force in the near future.

I encourage you to review the mandate letter that has been provided to Minister Kirby at http://www.exec.gov.nl.ca/exec/cabinet/ministers/pdf/Minister_Kirby_Mandate.pdf which outlines government’s approach to improving education and early childhood learning in our province.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DWIGHT BALL
Premier
MHA, Humber-Gros Morne
Hi Janet,

Attached, for the attention of your Minister and Deputy Minister, is an email dated January 14, 2016, to the Premier from [redacted] Teacher at [redacted] for their information.

Please copy Premier on any response to premier@gov.nl.ca account.

Thanks,

Kala

--------< HP TRIM Record Information >--------

Record Number: ICOR2016/0301
Title: E-mail for Premier Ball from [redacted] regarding Teachers Task Force, including e-mail response to [redacted] 40(1)
Please see attached

Thank You

Confidentiality Warning: This message and any attachments are intended for the sole use of the intended recipient(s), and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. If you are not an intended recipient, any review, retransmission, conversion to hard copy, copying, circulation or other use of this message and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete the message and attachments immediately and notify the sender by return email. Thank you!

avis de confidentialité: Ce courriel, ainsi que tout renseignement ci-inclus, est destiné uniquement au(x) destinaire(s) susmentionné(s) et peut contenir de l'information confidentielle. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinaire prévu, tout examen, copie, impression, reproduction, distribution ou autre utilisation de ce courriel est strictement interdit. Si vous avez reçu ce message par erreur, veuillez en aviser immédiatement l'expéditeur par retour de ce courriel et veuillez supprimer immédiatement cette communication. Merci.
Good Morning

Thank you for your email of January 14th to Premier Ball indicating your interest in the task force on improving educational outcomes. I wish to advise you that your correspondence will be brought to this attention at the earliest opportunity.

Regards,
Virginia Connors
Office of the Premier

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Premier, IEX/O=PSNL/GU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP
(FYDIKOHFSPPDLTV/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=PREMIER.8E)
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 8:16 PM
To: Premier, [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] your task force Sir

Hi Premier Ball. First off congratulations on winning the premiership, an amazing landslide win. We met at [REDACTED] wedding this summer and most recently at the open forum/education debate. It was there I was immediately intrigued by your want for a 'teachers task force' and am now putting my hat in the ring. I have been teaching for [REDACTED] years and love the work.

What ever you need from me to get in on the ground floor please let me know and I will take the necessary steps.
Thanks again for reading this and I wish you the best in the years ahead.
Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone.