

February 3, 2020

COR/2020/085113

Dear Applicant:

**Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* [Our File #: HCS/004/2020]**

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On January 8, 2020, the Department of Health and Community Services (the Department) received your request for access to the following records:

*“Please provide the number of trips per month and associated costs per month broken down by cost type (i.e. airfare, car rental, taxi, hotel, etc.) reimbursed from the Medical Transportation Assistance Program for individuals who reside in communities west of Corner Brook ( i.e. Stephenville, Port Aux Basques, etc.) and who were required to travel to St. John's for medical services via Deer Lake Airport for the period of April 1, 2018 to December 2019.”*

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Department to provide access to most of the requested information. Access to the remaining information contained within the records has been refused in accordance with the following exceptions to disclosure as specified in the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act):

**Disclosure harmful to personal privacy**

*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 potential exists to identify patients, please be advised that s. 40(1) of the Act has been applied for community claims that comprise less than five individuals.

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 contact the undersigned by telephone at 709-729-7010 or by email at [MichaelCook@gov.nl.ca](mailto:MichaelCook@gov.nl.ca).

Sincerely,



Michael Cook  
Manager of Privacy and Information Security  
/Enclosures

### 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).

**Medical Transportation Assistance - Airfare + Accommodations Claims**

Newfoundland and Labrador

Claims Reimbursed for Individuals Residing West of Corner Brook [as per input Community listing]

For Travel Departure Dates in Period 2018-04-01 to 2019-12-31

By Community of Residence

Community of Residence	In Province Travel			Out of Province Travel			ALL Travel		
	# of Claims	Amount Claimed	Amount Paid	# of Claims	Amount Claimed	Amount Paid	# of Claims	Amount Claimed	Amount Paid
Aguathuna		3,149.66	1,424.83					3,149.66	1,424.83
Burgeo	12	6,985.54	2,645.31				12	6,985.54	2,645.31
Burnt Islands	9	16,201.32	9,019.74				9	16,201.32	9,019.74
Cape St. George		2,866.29	983.15					2,866.29	983.15
Channel - Port aux Basques	45	41,579.29	18,220.15	13	36,432.95	24,069.09	58	78,012.24	42,289.24
Gallants		2,843.72	791.86					2,843.72	791.86
George's Lake		2,922.03	1,311.02					2,922.03	1,311.02
Heatherton		1,998.92	849.46					1,998.92	849.46
Highlands		4,932.79	2,674.59					4,932.79	2,674.59
Isle Aux Morts	10	10,678.71	5,471.61				10	10,678.71	5,471.61
Jeffrey's		424.00	24.00					424.00	24.00
Kippens	10	17,557.62	8,490.08				10	17,557.62	8,490.08
La Poile		354.00	177.00					354.00	177.00
Lourdes		688.00	0.00		496.67	96.67		1,184.67	96.67
Lower Cove		154.00	0.00					154.00	0.00
Mainland		4,104.00	3,078.00					4,104.00	3,078.00
Margaree - Fox Roost		1,383.00	541.50					1,383.00	541.50
Piccadilly		1,559.88	629.94					1,559.88	629.94
Point au Mal		2,193.39	946.70					2,193.39	946.70
Port au Port East	8	4,315.71	1,377.86				8	4,315.71	1,377.86
Ramea	9	4,660.17	2,080.09				9	4,660.17	2,080.09
Robinsons		200.00	0.00					200.00	0.00
Rose Blanche	10	17,696.00	11,649.75				10	17,696.00	11,649.75
Ship Cove, Port au Port		1,133.00	566.50					1,133.00	566.50
St. Andrew's		848.00	165.00					848.00	165.00
St. David's	6	3,446.04	1,346.02				6	3,446.04	1,346.02
St. George's		1,081.66	226.83					1,081.66	226.83
Stephenville	30	47,373.03	25,429.13	6	9,907.96	4,699.11	36	57,280.99	30,128.24
Stephenville Crossing	15	24,343.23	16,118.96				15	24,343.23	16,118.96
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>227,673.00</b>	<b>116,239.08</b>		<b>46,837.58</b>	<b>28,864.87</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>274,510.58</b>	<b>145,103.95</b>