March 21, 2016

Dear [Redacted],

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [Our File #: PB 213 2016]

On March 15, 2016, Fire and Emergency Services – NL (FES-NL) received your request, as a transfer from Justice and Public Safety, for access to the following records:

"On or about March 8, 2016, there was a search and rescue operation involving two snowmobilers near Gander Bay, NL. Request all NL Gov documentation pertaining to this operation with particular attention to Fire and Emergency Services. Request all records as they relate to NL Gov requests for assistance and actions taken, logs, reports, phone calls, messages, e-mails during the operation for the time it was ongoing, including communication between NL Gov and the RCMP and NL Gov and JRCC Halifax as well as any subsequent communication relating to this incident. Request information that would clearly indicate the timelines of involvement for officials within the Provincial Government during the time the search and rescue operation was ongoing."

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for FES-NL to provide access to the requested information.

In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the appropriate copies have been enclosed.

The Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act requires us to provide an advisory response within 10 days of receiving the request. As this request has been completed prior to day 10, this letter also serves as our Advisory Response.

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

P.O. Box 8700, 25 Hallett Crescent, St. John's, NL A1B 4J6 Telephone (709)-729-6794 Fax (709)-729-5609
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 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 contact me by telephone at 729-3263 or by email at lisas@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Lisa Sullivan
ATIPP Coordinator
I also received a call from Faron Harnum of the RCMP at 1:30 on March 08, 2016 wondering if we received a call on this incident. I explained we did receive a heads up call, RCMP did not follow protocol and contact us first. We should have been contacted and we in turn contact JRCC. Faron asked for a copy of the email I received which I provided. David McCormack was provided a verbal briefing of this conversation.

Paul

From: Faron Harnum [mailto:Faron.Harnum@rcmp-grc.qc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 1:41PM
To: Peddle, Paul W.
Subject: Re: FW: Snowmobilers going through ice in Gander Bay

Paul, thanks...faron...

>>> "Peddle, Paul W." <ppeddle@gov.nl.ca> 2016/03/08 12:07 PM >>>

From: McCormack, David
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 12:01 PM
To: Hogan, Blair; Peddle, Paul W.; Collins, Bill; Spracklin, Cory; English, Tina Marie; Simmons, Derek; Emberley, Nancy; Events, Emergency Services; Dutton, Sean; Crocker, Ryan; Berthiaume, Mario; Rodgers, Pamela; Walsh, Susan
Subject: RE: Snowmobilers going through ice in Gander Bay

Thx Blair for the info....Dave

From: Hogan, Blair
Sent: Tuesday, March 08, 2016 2:26 AM
To: McCormack, David; Peddle, Paul W.; Collins, Bill; Spracklin, Cory; English, Tina Marie; Simmons, Derek; Hogan, Blair; Emberley, Nancy; Events, Emergency Services; Dutton, Sean; Crocker, Ryan; Berthiaume, Mario; Rodgers, Pamela; Walsh, Susan
Subject: Snowmobilers going through ice in Gander Bay

Hi all

Heads up courtesy call from Captain Cameron (DND) in Halifax.

There were 2 individuals on 1 or possibly 2 snowmobiles in Gander Bay that went through ice. Details sketchy at this point.

Locals close to Main Point rescued 1 individual.
RCMP were speaking with DND and somehow a DND helicopter was tasked to the scene. DND recovered the 2nd individual from the ice and transferred that individual to the Gander Hospital.

No request for assistance came in for FES. This was a heads up call only with the available information shared from DND to FES.

Blair

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

"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."
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