Cor/2016/01509

May 9, 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 TW/029/2016)

On, April 18, 2016, the Department of Transportation and Works received your request for access to the following records/information:

I would like to request information regarding the current status on the construction on the Bell Island & Portugal Cove wharf. Please include the status of the project, including budget estimates and any overages and please detail the changes being made to the wharves and the anticipated completion date of the wharves. Include a date which the Legionnaire is coming to Newfoundland and will be in service on the BI-PC Service.

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Deputy Minister for the Department of Transportation and Works to provide access to the requested information.

In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the appropriate information has been enclosed and included in this letter. Please note the paragraphs below entail status updates on the Bell Island and Portugal Cove wharves.

A tender 8-15PWR for the Bell Island wharf was awarded on June 26, 2015 to Coady Construction at a value of $3,063,271.50 for the construction of a new wider loading ramp, an increase in height of the existing wharf and dredging work to accommodate the MV Legionnaire. Work began in September 2015 and has been ongoing since that time. The work is approximately 75% complete with project completion expected in Summer 2016. It is expected final construction costs will exceed the initial estimated tender value by approximately 5%.

P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, Canada, A1B 4J6
A tender 28-ISPWR for the Portugal Cove wharf was awarded on June 10, 2015 to Trident Construction, with a value of $3,856,146.5 for the construction of a new wider loading ramp, the construction of a 45m extension to the length of the existing wharf and dredging work to accommodate the MV Legionnaire. In October of 2015, as construction progressed on the wharf extension foundation, conditions were found to vary from that anticipated in design. Design and construction changes became necessary and are expected to result in an increase in the value of Project 28-ISPWR of approximately $1,000,000. Work began in July 2015 and continued until February of 2015. Work has been suspended since that time as the contractor awaits availability of equipment to carry out necessary rock dredging work at Portugal Cove. The project is approximately 60% complete and is expected to be completed in the fall 2016.

In addition to these contracts, new vacuum mooring systems were purchased in 2015 with a total value of $2,543,500. They are to be installed at Bell Island and Portugal Cove to provide greater control of the Legionnaire while the vessel is moored at both Ferry Terminals. These vacuum mooring systems will require further wharf modification and strengthening work. This additional wharf modification and strengthening work is planned to be tendered in 2016.

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 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 the undersigned by telephone at 729-5303 or by e-mail at michellemurray@gov.nl.ca.
Sincerely,

Michelle Murray
ATIPP Coordinator
Department of Transportation and Works
Department Provides Update on Arrival of MV Legionnaire

Construction of the MV Legionnaire, the province’s newest 80-metre ice class ferry, is complete. The vessel is docked in Romania and will enter service when enhancements to the wharves at Bell Island and Portugal Cove-St. Philip’s are concluded.

“Significant upgrades to infrastructure are required to prepare the wharves at Portugal Cove-St. Philip’s and Bell Island for the MV Legionnaire and this work is progressing. When the construction season begins again in earnest this spring, we will provide further updates on the anticipated timeline for entry into service for the vessel.”

- The Honourable Al Hawkins, Minister of Transportation and Works

While docked in Romania, the MV Legionnaire will undergo ongoing maintenance and checks by the shipbuilder, Damen Shipyards. Training and other measures required for the vessel to enter service will be completed during the period between its arrival in the province and when it enters service. The MV Legionnaire will accommodate up to 200 passengers and 60 vehicles and will have increased capacity for operating in challenging ice conditions.

QUICK FACTS

- Construction of the MV Legionnaire is complete. The vessel was constructed by Damen Shipyards in Romania.
- The vessel is docked in Romania and will enter service upon completion of enhancements to the wharves at Bell Island and Portugal Cove-St. Philip’s.
- Significant upgrades to the wharves at Bell Island and Portugal Cove-St. Philip’s are required to accommodate the MV Legionnaire. An update on completion of the work will be provided when the construction season gets underway in the spring.
- While docked in Romania, the MV Legionnaire will undergo ongoing maintenance and checks by the shipbuilder, Damen Shipyards.
- The MV Legionnaire will accommodate up to 200 passengers and 60 vehicles and will have increased capacity for operating in challenging ice conditions.

Media contact:
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709-729-3015, 689-2824
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2016 02 25 2:00 p.m.