October 4, 2013

Dear [Name]—

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [Our File #: AES/026/2013]

On September 4, 2013, the Department of Advanced Education and Skills received your request for access to the following records:

The Minister of Advanced Education and Skills stated in a Letter to the Editor this year that “the annual graduation rate for 2011-12 for ABE at private training institutions is approximately 42 per cent and at College of the North Atlantic it is about 31 per cent”

Can you explain how graduation rates were calculated? Were these rates just for the most recent school year, or were they calculated over a number of years? Kindly demonstrate how these rates were calculated, providing a breakdown of the #s and reason students did not graduate (for example – identifying those who dropped out versus those who failed the program)

Your request has been granted.

Graduation rates were calculated using the provincial ABE Student Records and Certification System (ABE Database). The rates were calculated using the ABE Level III enrolment and graduation numbers generated by the database for the 2011-12 academic year.

The database does not provide information on the reasons why students do not complete the program: ABE is a self-paced program, therefore students do not “fail” the program. The table below shows the numbers generated from the database that provided the graduation rates referenced above.

| Level III Student Enrolment and Graduation by Institution Type (2011-12) |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Level III Enrolment            | College of the North Atlantic | Private Training Institutions |
| Level III Graduation           | 628                  | 601                  |
| Graduation Rate                | 31%                  | 42%                  |
Please be advised that this letter will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five days in the case where the response is mailed to you. It is the goal to have this information 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 Janelle Kenway at 729-7920 or janellekenway@gov.nl.ca

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

LORI ANNE COMPANION
Deputy Minister