July 18, 2013

Dear [Redacted],

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Our File #: EDU/004/2013)

On June 21, 2013, the Department of Education received your request for access to the following records/information:

"I am requesting, under the Access to Information Act, copies of any reports or assessments which outline the research undertaken to come to the conclusion that the collapsing of the four (4) English school boards into one (1) was the most beneficial option for the education of children in the province."

Please be advised that access to these 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):

Section 18(1)(a)(iii) - In this section “cabinet record” means “a memorandum, the purpose of which is to present proposals or recommendations to the Cabinet,”

Section 18(2)(a) - The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose to an applicant a Cabinet record, including "an official Cabinet record"

Section 43 of the Act provides that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this refusal of access or you may appeal the refusal to the Supreme Court Trial Division. A request to the Commissioner shall be made in writing within 60 days of the date of this letter or within a longer period that may be allowed by the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

The address and contact information of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is as follows:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner
34 Pippy Place
P. O. Box 13004, Stn. A
St. John's, NL. A1B 3V8
Telephone: (709) 729-6309; Facsimile: (709) 729-6500

In the event that you choose to appeal to the Trial Division, you must do so within 30 days of the date of this letter. Section 60 of the Act sets out the process to be followed when filing such an appeal.
Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five 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 ATIPP Coordinator by telephone at 729-1841 or by e-mail at brianevans@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Janet Vivian-Walsh
Deputy Minister