July 28, 2016

Dear [Name] [s.40(1)]

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 [Our File #: EC/25/2016]

On July 7, 2016, Executive Council received your request for access to the following records/information:

"Any reports, reviews, records or correspondence between Executive Council and other branches/agencies/departments of government related to Iris Kirby House. Request includes records in any and all formats, including paper and electronic. Date range of request is Feb. 1, 2016, to the present."

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Assistant Secretary to Cabinet (Social Policy) of Executive Council to provide access to the requested information. Please note, pages 7-8 and 10-15 have been removed as they are non-responsive to your request and page 9 has been removed as it is a duplicate of page 5.

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. 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 me by telephone at (709)729-5691 or by e-mail at rachellecutler@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Cutler
ATIPP Coordinator
Enclosures
First Look at Renovated Iris Kirby House

A media tour of the newly expanded Iris Kirby House took place in St. John's this morning.

CEO Gail Tobin says their new space has been opened since July, but it's the first peek at the newly expanded facilities for media.

Tobin says the new space allowed them to make some changes to their programming, to help break the cycle of violence against women and children. She says they now have two separate units, one for women with children and the other for single women.

They also redeveloped their programming for empowerment, children's services and youth groups.
Iris Kirby House seeks budget bump of $1M, as province continues to assess operations

Review approved in 2014 remains in progress, health department says

By Rob Antle, CBC News

Iris Kirby House is seeking a 50-per-cent increase in the amount of cash it receives from the public purse, as a government review of its operations and finances approved by the health minister 18 months ago is still not completed.

The shelter is seeking just under $3 million in funding for 2016-17 fiscal year, compared to the approved amount of roughly $2 million for the year just ending.

That's according to documents obtained by CBC News through access to information.

Iris Kirby House recently expanded services in the St. John's area, adding 10 shelter beds and four self-contained apartment units. It also has a sister operation in Carbonear.

Iris Kirby House received more than $500,000 in one-time additional funding in 2015 to support its expansion.

A CBC News investigation last year revealed that Iris Kirby House declined to provide its audited financial statements to Eastern Health while receiving millions in provincial tax dollars from 2006 to 2013. That was contrary to government guidelines.

The shelter is now providing those current financial documents to the province and health authority.

Gail Tobin, CEO of Iris Kirby House, said in an emailed statement to CBC News “we recently confirmed that government funders have received all the information they require to move our funding requests through government decision making.”

In that email, Tobin blamed former workers at the shelter for stirring up trouble.
"We can only hope that others in the transition house community as well as other community organizations are able to sustain the level of scrutiny and assessment Iris Kirby House has been put to since a group of disgruntled former employees have set out to do harm to this much needed organization," she noted.

She added that "negative press about Iris Kirby House has the unintended effect of dissuading women from seeking our services."

**Review of operations ongoing**

According to documents obtained by CBC News through access to information, government officials highlighted the need last year for more analysis of financial statements as part of the ongoing review.

That included seeking more details on deferred revenues at the shelter, the growth in salary costs, and a management letter issued by auditors, among other items.

Officials also noted that the number of women seeking services at Iris Kirby House had dropped by roughly 20 per cent between 2012 and 2014.

"The utilization stats do not support either an increase in activity or the request to fund additional resources," a February 2015 Department of Health decision note advised.

According to that government document, shelter officials said those numbers could be the result of bed closures linked to ongoing construction, and problems with manual data collection.

The Department of Health did not grant an interview request.

Both the department and Eastern Health provided statements saying that funding decisions are part of the budget process, which is ongoing.
Hugh Donnan
Director of Strategic Communications (Operations)

Executive Council
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
e: hughdonnan@gov.nl.ca
t: 709.729.0084 | c: 709.725.6511
http://www.gov.nl.ca
Health and Community Services
Iris Kirby House Review
March 9, 2016

Summary: Questions have been raised around the financial accountability of Iris Kirby House, who receives the bulk of its funding from Eastern Health. In 2014, the former administration indicated that a review would be undertaken on the financial and operational activities around transition houses in the province.

What is the status of the review?

When will the review be completed?

Will funding be provided to Iris Kirby House in the 2016 budget?

How can you be sure they will use it responsibly given their past history?

Key messages:
• A program review is underway, conducted by the department, to ensure quality services are provided for women and children.

• I expect to receive this results of this review in the near future.

• The responsibilities for transition houses lie with the Regional Health Authorities. Iris Kirby House receives funding through Eastern Health via an approved budget from the Department of Health and Community Services.

• Approval of 2016-17 budget requests will be determined through the ongoing budget process. This includes the budget request for transition houses.
Attached are any new/updated hot issues messages for today.

For those of you with binders you can add them.

Peter/Joy/Mark Browne – I’ll have complete binders for you today.

Cheers,

Hugh Donnan
Director of Strategic Communications (Operations)

Executive Council
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

hughdonnan@gov.nl.ca
t: 709.729.0084 | c: 709.725.6511
http://www.gov.nl.ca

Note: The attachment titled "HCS-Top Issue (Iris Ki~1.docx) is a duplicate of the email attachment found on page 5 of these records. – Executive Council
El-Gohary, Sonja

From: production@nlnewsnow.ca
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2016 11:57 AM
To: Medd, Blair; Scott, Brian; Howard, Jacquelyn; Card, Jason; Clarke, Lesley; Marnell, Debbie; Tulk, Jennifer; Walsh, Doris A.; Drover, Meghan; Guest, Kevin J; Barfoot, Scott; Donnan, Hugh; Hoskins, Melanie; Power, Bradley; O'Neill, Melony; O'Connor, Nancy; Hayes-Butt, Paula
Subject: OTF Headline - QUINN’S PLACE FUNDRAISER: "Adam Stead" offers an update on ...

VOCM Open Line - Fri, May 27, 2016

QUINN’S PLACE FUNDRAISER: "Adam Stead" offers an update on the Quinn's Place fundraiser tomorrow at the Paradise Double Ice Complex. There will be live entertainment with cheerleaders, Disney characters, face-painting and more. There will also be an adults-only event with a 50/50 draw, games of chance, live and silent auctions, and more. The funds raised go to the playground in Paradise, new rooms at Iris Kirby House, and a bursary.

Ref Id: w3c-4I7-27

Client: PG-ALL OTF Phone-In Show Headlines

NL News Now
Email: Production@nlnewsnow.ca
Tel: 709-732-6397
Web: www.nlnewsnow.ca
El-Gohary, Sonja

From: production@nlnewsnow.ca
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2016 10:32 PM
To: Tulk, Jennifer; Hayes-Butt, Paula; Coffey, Tina
Subject: NLNewsNow - Daily Headlines Report for PG-Early Education and Childhood Development

CBC East Coast Morning Show - Fri, May 27, 2016

1 STUDENTS HEADING TO ROV COMPETITION: A pair of students is going to Texas, where they will be vying to be the world's best young designers and operators of ROVs or Remotely Operated Vehicles. It's part of the International Marine Advanced Technology Education Competition. [“Khafre Pike”; “Shawn Purchase”, Students at Mt. Pearl Senior High]

CBN - St. John's - East Coast Morning Show @ 07:22:30am Duration: 00:08:50 Reporter: Maggie Gillis
Ref Id: h2Z-3Y9-27

CBC Central Morning Show - Fri, May 27, 2016

2 INDIGENOUS HISTORY OF PARK: Terra Nova National Park celebrates its indigenous roots in the area, offering educational programs as well as doing a lot of archaeological work. [“Starlen Thistle”, Interpreter]

CBG - Central - Central Morning Show @ 08:16:00am Duration: 00:06:00 Reporter: Julia Cook
Ref Id: s9i-9x7-27

CBC West Coast Morning Show - Fri, May 27, 2016

3 UNCERTAIN FUTURE FOR OVERNIGHT CAMP: Anything that gets kids outdoors these days is a good thing. But how about a program that takes hundreds of students every year back to nature for an overnight camping experience? Grade 5 students in the western region have taken part in the Outdoor Education Program, but now the school district says the funding and the half unit teaching position associated with the program have been eliminated. “Dan Murphy” facilitated the program for 12 years. The English School District sent a statement by e-mail.

CBY - Corner Brook - West Coast Morning Show @ 07:47:20am Duration: 00:07:10 Reporter: Bernice Hillier
Ref Id: k5x-6H5-27

VOCM Morning Show - Fri, May 27, 2016

4 BUDDY'S BOOK CLUB 2016: When Buddy the Puffin isn't working up the crowd at IceCaps games, he is probably catching up on his reading. Buddy was hanging out with the Grade 2 students of St. Peter's Elementary in Mount Pearl yesterday to kick off the 5th annual edition of Buddy's Book Club. ["Trevor Murphy", IceCaps Senior Director of Community Relations & Fan Experience]

VOCM - St. John's - Morning Show @ 07:12:55am Duration: 00:03:00 Reporter: Gerri Lynn Mackey
Ref Id: Q2R-4S3-27

5 POOR HEALTH STATISTICS IN NL: Lifestyle is contributing to high health care costs in this province according to a report released yesterday by the Canadian Institute for Health Information. 25.4% people living in NL are considered heavy drinkers compared to the Canadian average of 17.9% across Canada.
Obesity rates in this province are at about 30% compared to the Canadian average of 20%. Smoking rates are higher. And the rate of physical activity during leisure time is lower than the Canadian average. ["Dr. Catherine Donovan", Chair of the Provincial Wellness Advisory Council/Associate Professor of Clinical Public Health at MUN]

VOCM - St. John's - Morning Show @ 07:56:10am Duration: 00:06:00 Reporter: Fred Hutton
Ref Id: H7y-2N4-27

VOCM Open Line - Fri, May 27, 2016
6 GOVERNMENT AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATION: "Darrell" negotiates collective agreements. He says if the government negotiate with NAPE and other unions, they may negotiate job losses, then they are going the wrong route. That approach will put unions in defensive mode. They should be looking for saving and efficiencies where job losses wouldn't be necessary. The government needs to do their homework instead of cutting jobs right away. Paddy says he has a bad feeling about the negotiations and feels neither side is ready to accept what the other side wants.

VOCM - St. John's - Open Line @ 10:08:50am Duration: 00:08:00 Reporter: Paddy Daly
Ref Id: e5h-6N5-27

7 BUILDING PRESERVATION HELPS PROMOTE RESPECT FOR OUR HERITAGE: "Natalie Bull" of the National Historic Trust shares some information about their inclusion of the Harbour Grace Court House on their list of endangered places. They are very concerned about the building now that the Provincial Government is closing the court there because the building needs work and it is important not only to the province, but to the country's history. She discusses the importance of honouring our heritage through building preservation.

VOCM - St. John's - Open Line @ 10:28:50am Duration: 00:09:00 Reporter: Paddy Daly
Ref Id: k9I-6d5-27

8 QUINN'S PLACE FUNDRAISER: "Adam Stead" offers an update on the Quinn's Place fundraiser tomorrow at the Paradise Double Ice Complex. There will be live entertainment with cheerleaders, Disney characters, face-painting and more. There will also be an adults-only event with a 50/50 draw, games of chance, live and silent auctions, and more. The funds raised go to the playground in Paradise, new rooms at Iris Kirby House, and a bursary.

VOCM - St. John's - Open Line @ 10:41:50am Duration: 00:07:00 Reporter: Paddy Daly
Ref Id: w3c-417-27

VOCM 1pm News - Fri, May 27, 2016
9 EDUCATION CUT OPPOSITION FROM GRAND BANK-FORTUNE: Residents of the Grand Bank-Fortune area concerned about cuts to education in the budget and how it affects their children attending Lake Academy, will be meeting with MHA Carol Anne Haley and the Minister of Education Dale Kirby in late June. ["Rhonda Brenton", Chair of Lake Academy School Council]

VOCM - St. John's - 1pm News @ 01:06:10pm Duration: 00:01:20 Reporter: Vince Gallant
Ref Id: w6f-3F8-27

NTV Mid-Day News - Fri, May 27, 2016
10 QUINN'S PLACE FUNDRAISER: A special day in Paradise is scheduled for this weekend. It will raise money for the Quinn's Place Playground.
VOCM Back Talk - Fri, May 27, 2016

11 EDUCATED POLITICIANS: Host preamble. An e-mail regarding a caller to Back Talk on May 25th regarding politicians having to be well educated and how he feels it may be best to elect people who take a common sense approach to things. Jonathan discusses the current members of the House of Assembly and how we shouldn't forget it's also the bureaucrats that help run the government.

VOCM - St. John's - Back Talk @ 02:06:00pm Duration: 00:04:00 Reporter: Jonathan Richter
Ref Id: n4I-5q7-27

12 TURNING POINTS PROGRAM: "Derek Moore", Program Manager is calling to talk about the Eastern Region Turning Points. This program is dedicated to advancing the public education systems and this year grade 7 students have been participating in writing about a turning point in their lives. He says the stories are very interesting and some of them have addressed the challenges of moving back to the province or dealing with illness or the impact of an important person in their life.

VOCM - St. John's - Back Talk @ 02:50:00pm Duration: 00:09:00 Reporter: Jonathan Richter
Ref Id: N9a-T4-27

CBC 5pm News - Fri, May 27, 2016

13 MAN CHARGED WITH STEALING BUS: A man with a history of car thefts is now charged with having a stolen school bus. ["Cst. Suzanne Fitzgerald", RNC]

CBN - St. John's - 5pm News @ 05:00:50pm Duration: 00:01:20 Reporter: Glenn Payette
Ref Id: R4t-2n4-27

14 CNA CAN NOW OFFER APPLIED DEGREES: Legislation passed yesterday will allow the College of the North Atlantic to offer applied degrees. ["Gerry Byrne", Minister of Advanced Education & Skills]

CBN - St. John's - 5pm News @ 05:02:10pm Duration: 00:00:45 Reporter: Lucas Wall
Ref Id: i9T-6K3-27

CBC 6pm News - Fri, May 27, 2016

15 MAN CHARGED WITH STEALING BUS: A man with a history of car thefts is now charged with having a stolen school bus. ["Cst. Suzanne Fitzgerald", RNC]

CBN - St. John's - 6pm News @ 06:00:55pm Duration: 00:01:20 Reporter: Glenn Payette
Ref Id: B3r-3g8-27

16 CNA CAN NOW OFFER APPLIED DEGREES: Legislation passed yesterday will allow the College of the North Atlantic to offer applied degrees. ["Gerry Byrne", Minister of Advanced Education & Skills]

CBN - St. John's - 6pm News @ 06:02:15pm Duration: 00:00:45 Reporter: Lucas Wall
Ref Id: A8d-2n3-27

VOCM Evening News - Fri, May 27, 2016

17 EDUCATION CUT OPPOSITION FROM GRAND BANK-FORTUNE: Residents of the Grand Bank-
Fortune area concerned about cuts to education in the budget and how it affects their children attending Lake Academy, will be meeting with MHA Carol Anne Haley and the Minister of Education Dale Kirby in late June. ["Rhonda Brenton", Chair of Lake Academy School Council]

VOCM - St. John's - Evening News @ 05:41:46pm Duration: 00:01:20 Reporter: Connor McCann/Lacy O'Connell
Ref Id: K2x-8A2-27

CBC Here & Now - Fri, May 27, 2016
18 MAN CHARGED WITH SCHOOL BUS THEFT: A man with a history of stealing cars is now charged with stealing a school bus. ["Cst. Suzanne Fitzgerald", RNC]
CBNT (CBC TV) - Here & Now @ 06:04:00pm Duration: 00:01:40 Reporter: Glenn Payette
Ref Id: f2w-6Z3-27

NTV Evening Newshour - Fri, May 27, 2016
19 GOVERNMENT UNDER SIEGE: The Provincial Government has been under siege ever since the budget was released with protests held across the province but for one cabinet minister it’s been like a journey through the looking glass. ["James Dinne", NLTA President; Dale Kirby", Education Minister]
CJON (NTV) - Evening Newshour @ 06:05:05pm Duration: 00:03:25 Reporter: Michael Connors
Ref Id: W8S-7F4-27

20 PARENTS EXPRESS CONCERNS ABOUT BUDGET: Parents in the communities of Grand Bank and Fortune were out in force last night to express their concerns about the budget. ["Connie Grandy", Grand Bank Resident; "Rosalind Snook", Grand Bank Resident; "Rhonda Brenton", Chairperson - Lake Academy School Council; "Yolanda Saunders", Grand Bank Resident]
CJON (NTV) - Evening Newshour @ 06:18:54pm Duration: 00:02:35 Reporter: Ross Tilley
Ref Id: C5X-4P8-27

VOCM Night Line - Fri, May 27, 2016
21 BANKING: "Dave" is calling to talk about banking. He says if somebody is going to give you a loan human nature is to take it and deal with the consequences later but there is nothing in the education system regarding financial literacy. He comments there isn't much hope for the province in general because of this.
VOCM - St. John's - Night Line @ 08:50:00pm Duration: 00:08:00 Reporter: Darrell Power
Ref Id: H6k-6M6-27

Client: PG-Early Education and Childhood Development

NL News Now
Email: production@nlnewssnow.ca
Tel: 709-726-6397
Web: www.nlnewssnow.ca
Concerns are being expressed about caps being put on the number of diabetic test strips being provided to some patients by government.

Carol says she and most of her family are diabetic.

She told VOCM Backtalk with Pete Soucy she has a brother who is a severe diabetic and received notice this week that he's being limited to just 50 test strips a year.

She says 50 is not enough.

Health Minister John Haggie says the caps come from national guidelines.

He says the numbers come from the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technology in Health and there were consultation with the Canadian Diabetes Association.

He says the changes align the need for test strips with the patient's treatment needs.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Building Construction Trades Council, Hebron project partners and trades workers gathered today to make a $13,000 presentation to Iris Kirby House.

The money comes from a special safety initiative at the Hebron Gravity-Based Structure.

Workers at the site were divided into teams and the team that accumulated the highest safety scores over a six-week period got to choose a charity of their choice.
OTF Headline - SAFETY CHALLENGE PROGRAM: "Kerry" is working on the Hebron project and he is part of a committee that gives the guys in the field a voice if they see something unsafe in the workplace. The committee came up with a challenge on the site and give them a set of criteria if they met them they would win that round. It was all about safety and being aware of your surroundings. He says that when someone comes to a committee member their name is never mentioned to management. There is no pointing fingers or anything like that there if full support from management. RDTC has partnered with them on that and whatever teams win they will donate money to a charity of their choosing. One team has put their funds to Iris Kirby House in memory of Quinn Butt, that money will be used to build a greenhouse. It will be called Quinn’s Garden of Hope. For round two the money went to the Janeway and the other half to Shave for the Brave.

VOCM Open Line - Tue, June 21, 2016

SAFETY CHALLENGE PROGRAM: "Kerry" is working on the Hebron project and he is part of a committee that gives the guys in the field a voice if they see something unsafe in the workplace. The committee came up with a challenge on the site and give them a set of criteria if they met them they would win that round. It was all about safety and being aware of your surroundings. He says that when someone comes to a committee member their name is never mentioned to management. There is no pointing fingers or anything like that there if full support from management. RDTC has partnered with them on that and whatever teams win they will donate money to a charity of their choosing. One team has put their funds to Iris Kirby House in memory of Quinn Butt, that money will be used to build a greenhouse. It will be called Quinn’s Garden of Hope. For round two the money went to the Janeway and the other half to Shave for the Brave.

Ref Id: N6i-718-21

Client: PG-ALL OTF Phone-In Show Headlines

NL News Now
Email: Production@nlnewsnow.ca
Tel: 709-732-6397
Web: www.nlnewsnow.ca
VOCM Open Line - Tue, June 21, 2016

DONATION FROM HEBRON WORKERS: "Gale" says that the workers at Hebron were so generous to give money to Iris Kirby House where she works and they are going to put the money towards a greenhouse. She says that we need to keep the issue of domestic violence in the public. They have 47 emergency beds combined at two sites and there are shelters in other parts of the province.

VOCM - St. John's - Open Line @ 11:12:00am Duration: 00:05:00 Reporter: Paddy Daly

Ref Id: P5q-9g2-21
Kerry was part of the committee.

The Gathering Place Receives $60,000 Funding

June 21, 2016 | 3:18 pm Last Updated: June 21, 2016 | 6:55 pm

The Gathering Place now has the resources to hire a Volunteer Coordinator after a funding announcement made earlier today.

Minister Sherry Gamlin-Walsh announced $60,000 that will allow the organization to fund the full-time position for one year. The money is provided through the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation.

The Gathering place now has over 700 guests who use their products and services. Co-Chair Sister Elizabeth Davis says the position will help better organize the talents and time of their 350 volunteers.

Davis says The Gathering Place helps ensure that everyone has the right to the same quality of living.

National Aboriginal Day Ceremony Held In Pippy Park

June 21, 2016 | 1:50 pm Last Updated: June 21, 2016 | 6:54 pm

National Aboriginal Day officially kicked off with opening ceremonies held at the North Bank Lodge in Pippy Park. VOCM's Gerri Lynn Mackey reports.

The event that celebrates aboriginal and indigenous culture was hosted by the St. John's Native Friendship Centre.

There were speeches and performances from several different cultural groups. This was the first opening ceremony that the Premier has attended in St. John's and Chair of the Friendship Centre board, Emma Reelis, says his presence is appreciated.

Reelis says the day is an excellent chance for all indigenous cultures to socialize and share traditions.
She says it also provides an opportunity to have conversations about issues affecting the aboriginal community.