August 6, 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 #: FA/18/2013]

On June 28, 2013, the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture received your request for access to the following records:

I am requesting, under the Access to Information Act, a copy of the research document where the department conducted an investigation into 40 different inland salmon farms – which the department says have all closed because they were not viable. (Media reference – VOCM May 29th, 2013.) This information should include name, locations and times of opening and closure.

Please be advised that our records indicate that the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture has no records responsive to your request. The department acknowledges receipt of the VOCM article entitled Land-Based Salmon Farming Not Viable containing the sentence, “The department says it has conducted research into 40 different inland salmon farms, which have all closed.” This statement is incorrect. The department has not conducted research into 40 inland salmon farms, rather Fisheries and Oceans Canada undertook this research and the report was erroneously attributed to the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. Further information can be found at http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/lib-bib/nasapi-inpasa/BC-aquaculture-CB-eng.htm#executive.

Section 43 of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (“the Act”) provides that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review the processing of your access request 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 are 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 Supreme Court, you must do so within 30 days of the date of this letter. Section 60 of the Act will set out the process to be followed when filing such an appeal.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the ATIPP Coordinator, Kim Anstey-Stockwood, at (709) 729-3712.

Sincerely,

David Lewis
Deputy Minister (A)