December 5, 2016

Dear [Redacted],

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 [Our File #: PRE/110/2016]

On November 4, 2016, the Premier’s Office received your request for access to the following records/information:

"Please provide a copy of the agreement, decision note and other correspondence resulting from the October 25th meeting between the Premier and Indigenous Leaders from Labrador."

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Chief of Staff of the Premier’s Office to provide access to correspondence related to the October 25th meeting between the Premier and Indigenous Leaders from Labrador. The agreement resulting from the October 25th meeting was verbal. In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the appropriate copies have been enclosed.

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.

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 Completed Access to Information Requests 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)729-3570 or by e-mail at joybuckle@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joy Buckle
ATIPP Coordinator

Enclosure
From: Buckle, Joy
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:38 PM
To: Joyce, Luke; Barfoot, Scott
Cc: Cannizzaro, Michelle
Subject: FYI
Attachments: Draft release - October 25, 2016.docx

Please see attached for formatting only.
Send to Michelle for approvals as per the normal process.

Carla

Carla J. Foote
Associate Secretary to Cabinet (Communications)
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Tel: 709-729-4781
Cell: 709-691-6673
www.gov.nl.ca

From: Williams, Suzanne
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 11:22 PM
To: Foote, Carla
Subject: Draft release - October 25, 2016.docx
The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Innu Nation, Nunatsiavut Government, and the NunatuKavut Community Council met today to address concerns regarding the health and wellbeing of the people of Labrador as related to the Muskrat Falls project.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, supported by the three Indigenous leaders, has committed to resolving several key issues surrounding the pending flooding of the Muskrat Falls reservoir.

The Province has provided the Indigenous leaders with multiple engineering reports with respect to the timing and rationale of initial reservoir impoundment. The three leaders will immediately undertake to have the reports independently reviewed. If independent assessment confirms the timing and rationale of initial impoundment, water levels will be raised to the minimum acceptable level. Following initial impoundment, Nalcor will release water from the reservoir in the Spring of 2017 to its natural flow, as ordered by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. This will facilitate the opportunity for additional mitigation measures.

As well, as agreed by all parties, an Independent Expert Advisory Committee (IEAC) will be established. The IEAC will be comprised of representatives of the Innu Nation, Nunatsiavut Government, NunatuKavut Community Council, and federal, provincial and municipal governments.

The IEAC will be mandated to seek an independent evidence-based approach that will determine and recommend options for mitigating human health concerns related to methylmercury. Mitigation measures will be realized through utilizing best available science that incorporates Indigenous Traditional Knowledge, and may include fully clearing the reservoir. The full mandate of the IEAC continues to be refined.
Michelle, please see the draft statement below for your final review. Once approved, we will print copies for the media that are still at Confederation Building.

Thanks,
- Luke

Executive Council
October 25, 2016

Provincial Government Concludes Meeting with Indigenous Groups

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Innu Nation, Nunatsiavut Government, and the NunatuKavut Community Council met today to address concerns regarding the health and wellbeing of the people of Labrador as related to the Muskrat Falls project. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, supported by the three Indigenous leaders, has committed to resolving several key issues surrounding the pending flooding of the Muskrat Falls reservoir.

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michellecannizzaro@gov.nl.ca

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709-899-5799

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Luke Joyce  
Director of Strategic Communications (Operations)  
Executive Council – Communications and Public Engagement Branch  
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709-725-4165  
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Director of Communications
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(709) 697-5806

Michelle, please see the draft statement below for your final review. Once approved, we will print copies for the media that are still at Confederation Building.

Thanks,
- Luke

Executive Council
October 25, 2016

Provincial Government Concludes Meeting with Indigenous Groups

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As well, as agreed by all parties, an Independent Expert Advisory Committee (IEAC) will be established. The IEAC will be comprised of representatives of the Innu Nation, Nunatsiavut Government, the NunatuKavut Community Council, and federal, provincial and municipal governments.

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- 30 -

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Provincial Government and Indigenous Leaders
Make Significant Progress on Muskrat Falls Issues

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Innu Nation, Nunatsiavut Government, and the NunatuKavut Community Council met to address concerns regarding the health and well-being of the people of Labrador as related to the Muskrat Falls project.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, in partnership with the three Indigenous leaders, has committed to resolving several key issues surrounding the pending flooding of the Muskrat Falls reservoir.

The Province has provided the Indigenous leaders with multiple engineering reports with respect to the timing and rationale of initial reservoir impoundment. The three leaders will immediately undertake to have the reports independently reviewed within days. If independent assessment confirms the timing and rationale of initial impoundment, water levels will be raised to the minimum acceptable level. Following initial impoundment, Nalcor will release water from the reservoir in the spring of 2017 to its natural flow, as ordered by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. This will facilitate the opportunity for additional mitigation measures, which may include clearing trees, vegetation and/or soil from the reservoir.

As well, as agreed by all parties, an Independent Expert Advisory Committee (IEAC) will be established. The IEAC will be comprised of representatives of the Innu Nation, Nunatsiavut Government, the NunatuKavut Community Council, and federal, provincial and municipal governments.

The IEAC will be mandated to seek an independent, evidence-based approach that will determine and recommend options for mitigating human health concerns related to methylmercury throughout the reservoir as well as in the Lake Melville ecosystem. Mitigation measures will be realized through utilizing best available science that incorporates Indigenous Traditional Knowledge. The full mandate of the IEAC continues to be refined.

All parties agree that these are new and significant commitments.

- 30 -
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2016 10 26 2:05 a.m.