Dear [Name]

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Our File # HCS/001/2013)

On January 4, 2012 the Department of Health and Community Services received your request for access to the following records/information:

"To obtain a copy of the "master plan" for the construction of a new regional hospital to be built in Corner Brook and all documents related to it.

For greater certainty, this request is for all records or documents which form part of, relate to, or discuss the "master plan" which is currently the subject of review and refinement by Stantec as per a recently awarded contract, confirmed by Minister Susan Sullivan as per the attached Western Star article of December 5, 2012.

I am requesting all records or documents including reports, memoranda, diagrams, manuals, emails, spreadsheets and other records in the possession of the Department of Health and Community Services, its predecessor Departments, or any other government agencies, including financial and accounting information, budgets, cost estimates, engineering particulars, design specifications, facility requirements which were created between January 1, 2004 and the date on which this request is received by your department."

On January 18, 2013 you refined your request as follows:

"A copy of the "master plan" and associated documents that were provided to Stantec by the Department, as referenced in Minister Sullivan’s statement in the Western Star article in December 2012. This would include memos and/or correspondence indicating what the Department requested to be reviewed. Anything that gives a clear picture of the anticipated size and scope of the new hospital."
On January 24, 2013 you further clarified:

"The "anticipated size and scope" as including:

- the cost
- as detailed a list of the proposed facilities as possible
- the size (measured in area, rooms, wards, floors, beds, or whatever units it would be described in)"

The Department of Health and Community Services does not have any documents responsive to your request. As you are aware, in October 2012, Stantec was awarded a contract to assist government in determining if the original master plan for the Corner Brook hospital was suitable for the western region. Government is seeking advice which will include analysis of bed and building model projections, budgets, and demographics in the region. The Department of Transportation and Works is responsible for the construction and management of provincial government buildings. Stantec’s final report will be submitted to and reviewed by the Department of Transportation and Works.

As you have been advised, your request for a copy of the “master plan” and associated documents that were provided to Stantec was transferred to the Department of Transportation and Works on January 30, 2013. The Department of Transportation and Works will respond to you directly.

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 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  
Email: oipc@gov.nl.ca

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.
If you have any further questions, please contact Rachelle Cutler, ATIPP Coordinator at (709)729-7776 or via email at rachellecutler@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Bruce Cooper
Deputy Minister

/rc