July 26, 2017

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/36/2017]

On June 27, 2017, the Premier’s Office received your request for access to the following records/information:

“All records/correspondence between Premier Dwight Ball between the Federal Government/Justin Trudeau for the following dates: December 14, 2015 - January 01, 2017.”

On June 29, 2017, you indicated the key search terms should be “budget” and “assistance”.

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 the requested information.

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 appeal may be addressed to the Information and Privacy Commissioner 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 (a copy of this section of the Act has been enclosed for your reference).

This letter will be published following a 72 hour period after it 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.
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
The Honourable Bill Morneau  
Minister of Finance  
140 O'Connor Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0G5

December 3, 2015

Dear Ministers,

As Premier-Designate, I write to advise you of my intent to reverse a two-point increase to the provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) that was announced in the Newfoundland and Labrador 2015 Budget. This will ensure the general sales tax rate shall remain at 13 per cent after December 31, 2015.

Attached is a statement released on www.strongertomorrow.ca which serves as a clear public statement to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador confirming my intention to cancel the proposed HST increase. I also communicated this in a public media interview on December 2, 2015.

I trust the officials with Finance Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency will ensure these measures can be accommodated.

Budget 2015 also announced a series of changes to the parameters associated with the HST Credit and the Income Tax Act, 2000 was amended accordingly. It will be necessary for the Legislature to repeal these amendments at the earliest possible opportunity with the retroactive application to January 1, 2016.

I will make a public statement in the Legislature at the time of introduction of this legislation affirming this reversal of the two-point HST increase.

Thank-you for your attention on these matters.

Dwight Ball  
Premier-Designate,  
Newfoundland and Labrador
March 7, 2016

The Honourable William Francis Morneau, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Finance
Department of Finance Canada
90 Elgin Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G5

Re: Fiscal Stabilization – Advance Payment Request

Dear Minister Morneau:

I am writing to formally request an advance Fiscal Stabilization payment concerning fiscal year 2015-16 as is required and authorized under the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act.

Calculations by officials of my department indicate Newfoundland and Labrador will likely qualify for the maximum payment of $31,674,480 allowed under the Act concerning the 2015-16 fiscal year ($60 multiplied by NL’s 2015 June 1st population of 527,908).

For your information I have attached a summary table to illustrate our calculations however detailed calculations will also be electronically forwarded to officials of your department.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Cathy Bennett, M.H.A
Minister of Finance and
President of Treasury Board

Attch.
### Fiscal Stabilization Advance Payment Submission - Summary

**Revenues Subject to Fiscal Stabilization**

**Newfoundland and Labrador**

**2014-15 to 2016-17** ($ thousands)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Natural Resource Revenues:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial revenue sources</td>
<td>3,430,071</td>
<td>3,404,628</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>3,352,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal revenue sources</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total equalized tax transfer (estimated)</td>
<td>325,406</td>
<td>341,429</td>
<td>341,429</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Natural Resource Revenues:</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue</td>
<td>1,806,812</td>
<td>1,655,683</td>
<td>2,867,680</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>4,412,726</td>
<td>4,060,912</td>
<td>3,987,800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summary of tax changes for fiscal stabilization purposes:**

- **Personal Income Tax**
  - Effective January 1, 2015, Personal Income Tax rates on taxable incomes over $125,000 increased from 13.3% to:
    - 12.6% for 2015 and 14.3% after 2015 on taxable Income between $125,000 to $175,000
    - 14.3% for 2015 and 16.3% after 2015 on taxable Income over $175,000

- **Financial Corporations Capital Tax:**
  - Effective April 1, 2015, the Financial Corporations Capital Tax rate increased from 4% to 5%.

- **Sales Tax**
  - Effective July 1, 2015, the provincially-administered rebate on the provincial portion of the HST on all residential energy (Residential Energy Rebate) was eliminated.
  - Effective January 1, 2016, municipalities and local service districts received a partial rebate on the provincial portion of the HST.
  - Effective May 1, 2016, a rebate offered to retailers on tobacco sold in Labrador West will be reinstated.

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*Government of Newfoundland and Labrador*

**Fiscal Policy Division**

March 7, 2016
Honourable William Francis Morneau  
Minister of Finance  
Department of Finance Canada  
90 Elgin Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5

Dear Minister Morneau:

As you are aware, in March 2005 Newfoundland and Labrador received a $378 million ‘Repayable Floor Loan’ in recognition of declines in Equalization payments in 2004-05 compared with previous years. As stipulated in the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act ("the Act"), this interest-free loan was to be recovered monthly from Equalization payments over a 10 year period from 2006-07 to 2015-16. However, in 2008-09 Newfoundland and Labrador no longer qualified for Equalization payments and monthly recoveries of this loan stopped, leaving a $271.2 million balance to be paid on March 31, 2016.

The Act stipulates that amounts of the Repayable Floor Loan remaining to be paid on March 31, 2016 can be recovered from other payments under the Act (e.g., Canada Health Transfer, Canada Social Transfer) or any other Act of Parliament. At the discretion of a former federal Minister of Finance, it was determined that the remaining balance of $271.2 million would be recovered in equal monthly interest-free amounts ($2.26 million per month) over a 10-year period – April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2026 – from monthly transfer payments under the Act. Given the unprecedented financial situation facing Newfoundland and Labrador, our government has been faced with many difficult choices. Even with the tough decisions made in Budget 2016, our province is still forecasting a deficit this year of $1.8 billion and borrowing requirements of $3.4 billion.

Spending over $27 million this year on the equalization overpayment is difficult. As such, I am requesting that the federal government allow a deferral of these payments until our Province returns to surplus in accordance with the targets established in our 2016/17 Budget. This would allow our government some flexibility in our budgeting and would help reduce some of the financial burden the people of our province are feeling.

Sincerely,

Dwight Ball  
Premier  
MHA, Humber-Gros Morne

cc: Honourable Judy Foote
Dear Prime Minister:

Please accept our sincere thanks for your personal support for the Atlantic Growth Strategy, which was formally launched at the meeting of Atlantic Premiers and members of the federal cabinet held in St. Peters Bay, PEI on July 4, 2016. This new Strategy will significantly advance the mutual goals of our governments to foster economic growth and prosperity across Atlantic Canada. The direct involvement of members of your cabinet, under the leadership of Minister Bains, will help assure the success of this initiative.

It is particularly gratifying to us that the Government of Canada has agreed to take innovative approaches to address the challenges that face our region. The announcement of the Immigration pilot project is a positive step forward in the federal government’s policy direction for Atlantic Canada. Atlantic Canada needs to grow its population to meet its present and future workforce needs. The creative approach to expanding immigration opportunities for this region announced by Minister McCallum is an important step forward in meeting this key need for Atlantic Canada.

This willingness to tailor policies and programs with an aim of maximizing outcomes is encouraging, and will be critical as we advance the Atlantic Growth Strategy. As we embark on this process, we would like to take this opportunity to communicate our mutual position regarding funding in key areas which will also help to create the circumstances for Atlantic Canada to prosper:
We request that your government consider additional funding that addresses the needs of our region, including the particular challenges of making regulated child care accessible in rural locations and delivering these services in both official languages. We also recommend a hybrid formula that includes a base amount plus a per capita allocation to better reflect the additional cost for early childhood in Atlantic Canada. It is also important to note that federal funding needs to allow the flexibility for each province to address their specific needs.

Achieving prosperity and growth for Atlantic Canada is dependent on creative thinking and new approaches to long-standing challenges. Atlantic Premiers are working together to advance this approach through initiatives such as managing health care costs, reducing red tape for business and promoting exports to international markets. We applaud you and your government for moving forward with the Atlantic Growth Strategy, and adopting a bold and innovative approach to economic and social development. We look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the success of this Strategy and a brighter future for the people of Atlantic Canada.

Sincerely,

Hon. Brian Gallant
Premier of New Brunswick

Hon. Stephen McNeil
Premier of Nova Scotia

Hon. Wade MacLauchlan
Premier of Prince Edward Island

Hon. Dwight Ball
Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador
Dear Ms. Glynn,

Thank you very much for your email message a few moments ago. Please be assured that it has been brought to the attention of Minister Goodale and the appropriate individuals within our office.

With very kindest regards,

Shawna Dittburner
Shawna Dittbumer, Personal Assistant to
The Honourable Ralph Goodale, MP (Regina-Wascana)
ralph.goodale@parl.gc.ca / 613.996.4743

From: Glynn, Valerie [mailto:VGlynn@gov.nl.ca]
Sent: October 13, 2016 1:31 PM
To: Goodale, Ralph E. - M.P.
Cc: Premier,; Foote, Judy - M.P.; Hearn, Patricia A. (Deputy Minister); Bailey, Bev; Carroll, Cathy; Chippett, Jamie
Subject: Request for Support - DFAA

Good Afternoon Minister Goodale....

Please find attached letter from Minister Eddie Joyce with regards to the above subject.

Kindest Regards....Valerie

Valerie Glynn
Secretary to Hon. Eddie Joyce
Minister’s Suite
Municipal Affairs
Tel. 729-3046 Fax. 729-0943
vglynn@gov.nl.ca

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October 13, 2016

Honourable Ralph Goodale
Minister of Public Safety Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Goodale:

I wish to submit, on behalf of the Province, a request for funding consideration to assist with damages that occurred as a result of the Thanksgiving 2016 rainstorm which commenced Sunday, October 9, 2016 and ended Tuesday, October 11, 2016. This rainstorm impacted many communities in the province including the West Coast, South West Coast, South Coast, Connaigre Peninsula, the Burin Peninsula, the Bonavista Peninsula, Central Newfoundland, the Bay of Exploits, Green Bay and White Bay. See attached map from Environment Canada for further reference.

It should be noted that given the nature of watershed regions in this province, it may be discovered that areas outside of those indicated above may have experienced impacts not yet discovered but still associated with this rainstorm.

Substantial damages were incurred and early preliminary estimates indicate damages will exceed $10 million which would therefore trigger assistance from the Government of Canada.

Please confirm that this request for assistance is in keeping with the guidelines of the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements (DFFA) program and will be eligible for reimbursement as a claim under DFFA.

Sincerely,

EDDIE JOYCE, MHA
District of Humber-Bay of Islands
Minister of Municipal Affairs

cc Hon. Dwight Ball – Premier and Minister responsible for Intergovernmental Affairs
Hon. Judy Foote, Minister of Public Services and Procurement
Beth Gooding, Regional Director, Public Safety Canada
Patricia A. Hearn, Deputy Minister, Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat

Attachment
Total Precipitation Oct 9-11 2016
Précipitation totale 9-11 oct 2016

Environment Canada
Atlantic Region
Atlantic Climate Centre

Preliminary Data Oct 2016
Données préliminaires octobre 2016
Dear Ms. Glynn,

Attached please find a response from Minister Ralph Goodale.

With very kindest regards,

Shawna Dittburner
Shawna Dittburner, Personal Assistant to
The Honourable Ralph Goodale, MP (Regina-Wascana)
ralph.goodale@parl.gc.ca / 613.996.4743

Valerie Glynn
Secretary to Hon. Eddie Joyce
Minister’s Suite
Municipal Affairs
Tel. 729-3046 Fax. 729-0943
vglynn@gov.nl.ca

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13 October, 2016

The Honourable Eddie Joyce, MHS
Minister of Municipal Affairs
Department of Municipal Affairs
West Block, Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John’s, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister Joyce,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 13 October, 2016 in which you describe the impacts of the heavy rainfall that affected many communities and areas of your province. I was relieved to hear that, to date, no lives have been lost as a result of flooding.

I have provided a copy of your letter to officials at the Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness and asked them to prepare a fulsome response to your letter as quickly as possible.

Both myself and my colleague, the Honourable Judy Foote, Minister of Public Services and Procurement, remain seized with this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us as the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements process unfolds.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.P.

C.C.:
Hon. Dwight Ball, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador
Hon. Judy Foote, Minister of Public Services and Procurement