Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [JPS/90/2017]

Dear [Redacted]

On July 24, 2017, the Department of Justice and Public Safety received your request for access to the following records:

"Please provide all correspondence regarding the closing of the Family and Child Office and the elimination of the enhanced child protection service through Legal Aid. This request will cover the time period of January 1, 2016 to July 24, 2017."

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Deputy Minister for the Department of Justice and Public Safety to provide access to most of the requested records. Access to the remaining records, and/or information contained within the records, has been refused in accordance with the following exceptions to disclosure, as specified in the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act):

29. (1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information that would reveal

   (a) advice, proposals, recommendations, analyses or policy options developed by
   or for a public body or minister

40. (1) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant where the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.

As required by 8(2) of the Act, we have severed information that is unable to be disclosed and have provided you with as much information as possible. Please note, the requested records included number of references to unrelated projects, policies, and discussions that are not responsive to your request. These references have been severed as “non-responsive” as they would require significant consultation as well as significant time weighing discretionary exceptions.

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 Act (a copy of this section of the Act has been enclosed for your reference). 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).

Please be advised that responsive records will be published following a 72 hour period after the response is sent electronically to you or five business days in the case where records are mailed 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.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by telephone at 709-729-0071, or haleykenny@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

for
Haley Kenny
ATIPP Coordinator
Access or correction complaint

42. (1) A person who makes a request under this Act for access to a record or for correction of personal information may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting a decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request.

(2) A complaint under subsection (1) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days

(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or

(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16 (2).

(3) A third party informed under section 19 of a decision of the head of a public body to grant access to a record or part of a record in response to a request may file a complaint with the commissioner respecting that decision.

(4) A complaint under subsection (3) shall be filed in writing not later than 15 business days after the third party is informed of the decision of the head of the public body.

(5) The commissioner may allow a longer time period for the filing of a complaint under this section.

(6) A person or third party who has appealed directly to the Trial Division under subsection 52 (1) or 53 (1) shall not file a complaint with the commissioner.

(7) The commissioner shall refuse to investigate a complaint where an appeal has been commenced in the Trial Division.

(8) A complaint shall not be filed under this section with respect to

(a) a request that is disregarded under section 21;

(b) a decision respecting an extension of time under section 23;

(c) a variation of a procedure under section 24; or

(d) an estimate of costs or a decision not to waive a cost under section 26.

(9) The commissioner shall provide a copy of the complaint to the head of the public body concerned.
Direct appeal to Trial Division by an applicant

52. (1) Where an applicant has made a request to a public body for access to a record or correction of personal information and has not filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42, the applicant may appeal the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request directly to the Trial Division.

(2) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (1) not later than 15 business days

(a) after the applicant is notified of the decision of the head of the public body, or the date of the act or failure to act; or

(b) after the date the head of the public body is considered to have refused the request under subsection 16 (2).

(3) Where an applicant has filed a complaint with the commissioner under section 42 and the commissioner has refused to investigate the complaint, the applicant may commence an appeal in the Trial Division of the decision, act or failure to act of the head of the public body that relates to the request for access to a record or for correction of personal information.

(4) An appeal shall be commenced under subsection (3) not later than 15 business days after the applicant is notified of the commissioner’s refusal under subsection 45 (2).
That would be great if it is a misunderstanding!

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

FYI see below re mental health office
Maybe there is a misunderstanding at play here.

Kimberly Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Khurana, Harman" <HarmanKhurana@legalaid.nl.ca>
Date: April 20, 2017 at 5:44:39 PM NDT
To: "Hawley, Kim" <kimhawle@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: Update

No problem Kim.

Elizabeth- no firm date on the move yet. The lease does not expire till September 30th so the move will be sometime before then. We will first need to move Mental health office into the larger space on the bottom floor (once we get possession and can complete some minor renovations) - hoping by end of May/early June. Then the family child office will move into the mental health office space - mid to end of June. This will allow us to begin renovating the FCO space (6 to 8 weeks) to accommodate the Elizabeth avenue staff - end of august or early September.

Tenant - the landlord has requested that they move by may 15 but we do not have confirmation from the tenant if this timeline will be met. We are not expecting any major delays past this date - at most by end of may.

Sent from my iPhone
On Apr 20, 2017, at 4:45 PM, Hawley, Kim <kimhawle@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Harman,
Could you provide me with the status on the move from Elizabeth to Empire? Also, I know we talked about the other tenant on bottom floor of Empire moving out - what is status of that? (It may be reflected in the minutes for next time but I don’t have them yet. Sorry to trouble you.)
Kim

Kim Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.
Kenny, Haley

From: Khurana, Harman
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 9:33 AM
To: Hawley, Kim
Subject: RE: Update

Yes, MHO is staying within the building. However, Eastern Health staff have been requested to move out of the Annex by April 31st. Once Eastern Health moves out, the other tenants (insurance company) will take over the Annex and MHO will move into the space currently occupied by the tenants.

Regards,

Harman Khurana
Deputy Provincial Director – Corporate Services
NL Legal Aid Commission
Tel: 709.753.7860 ext. 324

From: Hawley, Kim
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 9:29 AM
To: Khurana, Harman <HarmanKhurana@legalaid.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: Update

So, to be clear (because the question has come up), the mental health office is staying in the building. correct? Are any Eastern Health people moving off site?
Thanks.

Kim Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.

From: Khurana, Harman
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 5:45 PM
To: Hawley, Kim
Subject: Re: Update

No problem Kim.
Elizabeth - no firm date on the move yet. The lease does not expire till September 30th so the move will be sometime before then. We will first need to move Mental health office into the larger space on the bottom floor (once we get possession and can complete some minor renovations) - hoping by end of May/early June. Then the family child office will move into the mental health office space - mid to end of June. This will allow us to begin renovating the FCO space (6 to 8 weeks) to accommodate the Elizabeth avenue staff - end of August or early September.

Tenant - the landlord has requested that they move by May 15 but we do not have confirmation from the tenant if this timeline will be met. We are not expecting any major delays past this date - at most by end of May.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 20, 2017, at 4:45 PM, Hawley, Kim <kimhawle@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Harman,
Could you provide me with the status on the move from Elizabeth to Empire? Also, I know we talked about the other tenant on bottom floor of Empire moving out - what is status of that? (It may be reflected in the minutes for next time but I don't have them yet. Sorry to trouble you.)
Kim

Kim Hawley George  
Chief Legislative Counsel and  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services  
Department of Justice and Public Safety  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  

t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.
Kim,

I apologize that this information has taken a while to be sent to you. Every time I sat at my computer to prepare it — someone came in with some issue that had to be discussed right away.

- During the 2016-17 year there was a steady growth in the number of people applying for Legal Aid assistance and a corresponding increase in the number of people approved for that assistance. An analysis done at year end (March 31, 2017) showed that there had been a 12% increase in the number of new files over the previous year.
- The increase in files has put a considerable strain on the ability of Legal Aid and its lawyers to maintain the level of service we expect. To take on more files results in lawyers who do not have the time to give clients the attention they need or to properly prepare for court. We strive to maintain high professional standards.
- From time to time the Commission has set standards for the number of files a staff solicitor should be carrying at any one time and how many files they are expected to close each year. Our figures show that currently our lawyers are carrying over 300 more files than they should and that there are approximately 125 files which have been approved for assistance but which are not yet assigned to a lawyer because there is no lawyer who can take on new matters.
I appreciate that the above is a very cursory view of the situation. If you or the Minister would like – the Management Committee would be very open to a sit down meeting to discuss this problem in more depth. I do note that I will be away from May 3 to June 5 so if such a meeting were scheduled for that period you will get Lauren and Harman. However, I have faith in them to be able to provide all the necessary information in my absence.

Nick

Nicholas Summers
Provincial Director
Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission
Suite 300
251 Empire Avenue
St. John's, NL, A1C 3H9

Telephone: (709) 753-7860 ext 333
Fax: (709) 753-7851
Email: nicksummers@legalaid.nl.ca

This e-mail transmission is SOLICITOR-CLIENT PRIVILEGED and is intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. Any other distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify us by return e-mail and delete the message and any attachments received with it from your system.
Yes - for now. As well, the other two offices are already somewhat reduced in that last year we eliminated the social worker position in Corner Brook and the paralegal position in HVGB.

Nicholas Summers
Provincial Director
Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission
Suite 300
251 Empire Avenue
St. John’s, NL, A1C 3H9

Telephone: (709) 753-7860 ext 333
Fax: (709) 753-7851
Email: nicksummers@legalaid.nl.ca

This e-mail transmission is SOLICITOR-CLIENT PRIVILEGED and is intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. Any other distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify us by return e-mail and delete the message and any attachments received with it from your system.

-----Original Message-----
From: Hawley, Kim
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 8:02 AM
To: Summers, Nick <nicksummers@legalaid.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: FCO YYT

Thanks. Just to confirm though, as the other 2 FCOs are continuing unchanged, there will be a different in services offered to St. John's clients.
I.e., no FCO model her ( but continued services of a lawyer) but FCO ( working well and as originally intended) in Corner Brook and Goose.

Kimberly Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
ADM, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

> On Jun 28, 2017, at 7:40 AM, Summers, Nick <nicksummers@legalaid.nl.ca> wrote:
>
> There will be no change in that we will continue to accept and
> represent the same people as we did under the FCO. The numbers will
> not change. There will be change in that the clientele will receive
> less service (i.e. instead of being assisted by a lawyer, a social
> worker, and a paralegal - they will just have the lawyer).
>
> The fact that the project is a bit dysfunctional at the moment speaks to our timing of this change. However, it is not
why we are collapsing the FCO. If we could afford the project we could fix that.
>
> Nick

> Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.
> Original Message
> From: Hawley, Kim
> Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 11:33 PM
> To: Summers, Nick
> Subject: FCO YYT

> Nick, I'm just looking at Roll-re FCOs. We have an exec in the morning, so your assistance before that would be appreciated, if possible.
>
> Thanks as always,
> Kim
>
> Kimberly Hawley George
> Chief Legislative Counsel and
> ADM, Legal Services
> Department of Justice and Public Safety Government of Newfoundland and
> Labrador
> 709.729.4766

> Sent from my iPad
Kimberly Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
ADM, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hawley, Kim" <kimhawle@gov.nl.ca>
Date: June 27, 2017 at 8:48:27 PM NDT
To: "Fowler, Robin" <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: "Jacobs, Heather" <heatheri@gov.nl.ca>, "Samms, John" <JohnSamms@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: Good Afternoon

I now have more information after a call with Nick:

The change is with the St. John’s FCO (Family Child Office);

There are various factors figuring into this change which we can discuss tomorrow. They include:
- senior FCO lawyer retirement
- long term absence of paralegal on team
- social worker not being utilized properly; change will allow this person to support all lawyers not just FCO lawyers

- other factors include move from Eliz Ave to Empire, rearrangement of offices etc
- No change to Corner Brook/Goose Bay FCO as they are 'working as intended'
Kimberly Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
ADM, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 23, 2017, at 3:52 PM, Fowler, Robin <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Great. That's what I thought.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Hawley, Kim
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Fowler, Robin
Cc: Jacobs, Heather
Subject: Re: Good Afternoon

Sent too fast. Issue discussed with Minister as you know Robin. Meeting was directed between JPS, LA and courts. Matter was discussed at board LA last week and stayed pending further discussions.

Kimberly Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
ADM, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 23, 2017, at 3:37 PM, Fowler, Robin <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Do we know if these programs are already being discontinued? I thought we were going to try and get legal aid meeting with the court.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Fowler, Robin
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2017 3:03 PM
To: Fowler, Robin
Cc: Deborah E. Fry
Subject: Re: Good Afternoon

Robin
I'm out of the province as you know, working by iPhone but just saw this message from LeBlanc J.************

non-responsive

S40(1)
timely access to resolution of these family disputes. I am meeting with the Minister next Wednesday, this issue now has to be top of my Agenda (where we have several important issues/initiatives already to discuss) Any strategy or action you can take to intervene will be appreciated.

Appreciate all you can do to assist. I'll follow up with the Minister on Wednesday and hopefully beforehand you'll work your magic.

Whalen CJ

On Jun 23, 2017, at 10:02 AM, LeBlanc, Richard <richardleblanc@supreme.court.nl.ca> wrote:

Hi Robin.

As well, I was notified this morning that that Legal Aid has now ended the Family Child Project which to will impact our handling of child protection matters. We wanted to give you notice of this and have a quick chat to see if there is a way to ensure that we do not lose

I know that you are busy this afternoon and had trouble getting back yesterday but if you have time to give me a call on Tuesday we would appreciate that. I can be reached on my cellphone at [REDACTED] or at my office 729-2681. Thanks and have a great long weekend.

"This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender."

<Attach0.html>
Can we have a quick chat before I respond to LeBlanc J?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Hi Robin. Just wondering if you have any news regarding the [REDACTED] and FCO programs as well as the [REDACTED] Thanks.
Andrew Parsons, QC
MHA Burgeo-Lapoie/Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: Parsons, Andrew
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2017 3:02 PM
To: Samms, John <JohnSamms@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: FW: Family and Child Office

Call me

Andrew K. Parsons, QC
MHA, District of Burgeo-La Poile

From: Moss-Adams, Riley
Sent: Thursday, July 06, 2017 3:00 PM
To: Parsons, Andrew
Cc: rileymmoss@gmail.com
Subject: Family and Child Office

Andrew, just wondering if we can connect on this. It seems that things are quickly moving ahead towards the closure of our office. My cell is [REDACTED] Thanks, Riley

Riley M. Moss, B.A, LL.B
Family & Child Legal Aid Office
Barrister, Solicitor & Notary

Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission

tel 709.753-0722 | fax 709.753-0723
Suite 101
251 Empire Avenue
St. John's NL A1C 3H9

rileymoss@legalaid.nl.ca
www.legalaid.nl.ca
Robin Fowler
Assistant Deputy Minister – Courts and Corporate Services (Acting)
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
1.709.729.4865 1.709.729.2129

This e-mail (including any attachments) is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). The contents of this e-mail may contain personal information and / or be covered by various forms of privilege, including solicitor/client privilege. Any unauthorized copying, distribution, publication or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt of this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender or the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and delete all versions of same. Thank you.

From: Fowler, Robin
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 4:51 PM
To: Croke, Neil
Subject: FW: Family Court and Legal Aid

Robin Fowler
Assistant Deputy Minister – Courts and Corporate Services (Acting)
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
1.709.729.4865 1.709.729.2129

This e-mail (including any attachments) is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). The contents of this e-mail may contain personal information and / or be covered by various forms of privilege, including solicitor/client privilege. Any unauthorized copying, distribution, publication or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt of this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender or the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and delete all versions of same. Thank you.

From: Fowler, Robin
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 3:46 PM
To: 'Richard D. LeBlanc'
Subject: Family Court and Legal Aid

Justice LeBlanc,

I apologize for the difficulties over the past week in trying to connect by phone.

The Minister has been made aware of the Courts concerns about Legal Aid and the services provided to the Family Court. We are working on these issues and we are going to be meeting internally with Kim Hawley George (ADM who is responsible for Legal Aid) and additionally will meet with the Legal Aid Board of Directors.

I will undertake to keep the Court appraised of the outcome of these meetings. I hope to be in contact soon.

-Robin

Robin Fowler
Assistant Deputy Minister – Courts and Corporate Services (Acting)
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
1.709.729.4865 1.709.729.2129

This e-mail (including any attachments) is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). The contents of this e-mail may contain personal information and / or be covered by various forms of privilege, including solicitor/client privilege. Any unauthorized copying, distribution, publication or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt of this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender or the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and delete all versions of same. Thank you.
From: Fowler, Robin
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 4:46 PM
To: Croke, Neil
Subject: FW: Meeting with the Minister

Robin Fowler
Assistant Deputy Minister – Courts and Corporate Services (Acting)
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
t: 709.729.4865 f: 709.729.2129

This e-mail (including any attachments) is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). The contents of this e-mail may contain personal information and/or be covered by various forms of privilege, including solicitor/client privilege. Any unauthorized copying, distribution, publication or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt of this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender or the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and delete all versions of same. Thank you.

From: Hawley, Kim
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 4:04 PM
To: Fowler, Robin
Subject: FW: Meeting with the Minister

FYI

Kim Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.

From: Summers, Nick
Sent: Wednesday, July 05, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Hawley, Kim
Subject: Meeting with the Minister

Kim,

I am wondering if there is any progress on setting a date for a meeting with the Minister. [Redacted]
Nick

Nicholas Summers
Provincial Director
Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission
Suite 300
251 Empire Avenue
St. John's, NL, A1C 3H9

Telephone: (709) 753-7860 ext 333
Fax: (709) 753-7851
Email: nicksommers@legalaid.nl.ca

This e-mail transmission is SOLICITOR-CLIENT PRIVILEGED and is intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. Any other distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify us by return e-mail and delete the message and any attachments received with it from your system.
Robin, thanks for getting back to me related to our concerns concerning our [redacted] and FCO project that Legal Aid is involved in. I look forward to your update after meeting with Ms. George and the Board on this. Obviously, it is important that we resolve this before the term begins in September.

Similarly for the FCO program, the work they do in child protection cases assists the court in reaching resolution without hearings which obviously impacts our busy schedule.
Thank you once again for your efforts on all of this.
Kenny, Haley

From: Fowler, Robin
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 4:50 PM
To: Croke, Neil
Subject: FW: Information About Family Court

Robin Fowler
Assistant Deputy Minister – Courts and Corporate Services (Acting)
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
1.709.729.4865 1.709.729.2129

This e-mail (including any attachments) is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). The contents of this e-mail may contain personal information and/or be covered by various forms of privilege, including solicitor/client privilege. Any unauthorized copying, distribution, publication or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt of this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender or the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and delete all versions of same. Thank you.

From: Fowler, Robin
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 7:49 AM
To: Delaney, Kim G.
Subject: Fw: Information About Family Court

Can we print this as well?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Hawley, Kim <kimhawle@gov.nl.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 10:50 PM
To: Fowler, Robin; Blundon, Chad; Pelletier, Jacqueline
Subject: Fwd: Information About Family Court

Thread for our meeting tomorrow

Kimberly Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
ADM, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Summers, Nick" <nicksummers@legalaid.nl.ca>
Date: April 27, 2017 at 9:56:39 AM NDT
To: "Hawley, Kim" <kimhawle@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: "Chafe, Lauren" <LAURENCHAIFE@legalaid.nl.ca>, "Khurana, Harman" <HarmanKhurana@legalaid.nl.ca>
Subject: Information About Family Court
Kim,

I apologize that this information has taken a while to be sent to you. Every time I sat at my computer to prepare it - someone came in with some issue that had to be discussed right away.

- During the 2016-17 year there was a steady growth in the number of people applying for Legal Aid assistance and a corresponding increase in the number of people approved for that assistance. An analysis done at year end (March 31, 2017) showed that there had been a 12% increase in the number of new files over the previous year.
- The increase in files has put a considerable strain on the ability of Legal Aid and its lawyers to maintain the level of service we expect. To take on more files results in lawyers who do not have the time to give clients the attention they need or to properly prepare for court. We strive to maintain high professional standards.
- From time to time the Commission has set standards for the number of files a staff solicitor should be carrying at any one time and how many files they are expected to close each year. Our figures show that currently our lawyers are carrying over 300 more files than they should and that there are approximately 125 files which have been approved for assistance but which are not yet assigned to a lawyer because there is no lawyer who can take on new matters.
I appreciate that the above is a very cursory view of the situation. If you or the Minister would like – the Management Committee would be very open to a sit down meeting to discuss this problem in more depth. I do note that I will be away from May 3 to June 5 so if such a meeting were scheduled for that period you will get Lauren and Harman. However, I have faith in them to be able to provide all the necessary information in my absence.

Nick

Nicholas Summers
Provincial Director
Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission
Suite 300
251 Empire Avenue
St. John's, NL A1C 3H9

Telephone: (709) 753-7860 ext 333
Fax: (709) 753-7851
Email: nicksummers@legalaid.nl.ca

This e-mail transmission is SOLICITOR-CLIENT PRIVILEGED and is intended only for the person(s) to whom it is addressed. Any other distribution, copying or disclosure is strictly prohibited. If you received this message in error, please notify us by return e-mail and delete the message and any attachments received with it from your system.
I suspect this issue will become public very soon. AP

Andrew Parsons, QC
MHA Burgeo-La Poile
Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: Ellie Jones [mailto:ejones@thrivecyn.ca]
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 9:17 AM
To: Parsons, Andrew <AndrewParsons@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Closure of FCO Office

Minister Parsons,
Please see the attached letter regarding the closure of the St. John’s FCO office. If you have any questions, please let me know. Kindest regards,

Ellie Jones, M.Ed.
Director of Programming
www.thrivecyn.ca
Thrive
108 Lemarchant Road
PO Box 26067
St. John’s, NL
A1E 0A5

(T) 754-0536 ext 210
(F) 754-0842
www.thrivecyn.ca

Like us on Facebook: Facebook
Follow us on Twitter: Twitter
Subscribe: YouTube

“This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender.”
July 13, 2017

Re: Family Child Office Closure

Dear Minister Parsons,
I was surprised and disappointed to learn that the Family Child Office of Legal Aid will be closing in St. John's. While I understand that this is a legal aid decision, and not one made by the Department of Justice, I am hoping that there is some avenue to complete a more thorough review of this decision before it is finalized.

Thrive supports some of the most vulnerable youth and families in the province. In the past 8 years, I have worked closely with many young parents (mostly mothers), whose children were taken into care by child protection. The service provided by the FCO was critical in the support provided to these parents. No matter what the outcome of the legal process—whether it was the return of children to their parents or the permanent removal of children—or any of the other possibilities that lie between these two outcomes, parents and children alike benefited from the support of the FCO office. While the legal representation was a part of this success, it was also the support of the staff social worker and paralegal. This cohesive team was able to fill the gaps in service to many parents, and provided the legal knowledge to many of us in the community who would not have had this information otherwise. The FCO is a true partnership and collaboration, and there is no other relationship like it in the province for the support of parents and their community allies.

The young parents we have mutually supported have experienced developmental trauma—they have experienced not only the worse kind of trauma in their childhoods, but also a perpetuation of that trauma through the systems they became connected with as a result of this trauma. The ability of the FCO to help facilitate understanding of systems, the rationale for the intervention of child protective services in their lives, and the empowerment of those who are marginalized is in invaluable in the healing of our clients. The inherent respect that is offered through the FCO to parents who often are not heard or respected within our community, and support of the dignity of people has been key in moving parents forward in their struggles with their own children. I have worked with the FCO when children have been returned to a parent's care, and have seen the joy when a parent thought no one would support them or believe in them. But this team of people did. I have also been privileged to support a parent's decision to cede custody of their children, and witnessed the understanding and compassion of the FCO team. Additionally, these parents in many cases were brought to a place where they could make peace with this decision, and felt that they were included, consulted, and respected when their children were placed in care. From a
trauma informed perspective, I cannot express how critical this is to the continued search for well-being that parents' may be faced with.

My understanding is that in the near future, all child protection matters will be handled by the general legal aid office. While there is no doubt that there are many talented and dedicated lawyers within this office, I cannot state strongly enough the need for lawyers who have specific training and knowledge not only in the area of the law that focuses on child protection, but who also have the training and understanding of the unique needs of the population of people who require support in dealing with child protection. There is no other avenue in our province to hold child protection accountable for their actions when it comes to the position of parents and parenting. The Office of the Child and Youth Advocate represents children, and rightly so, is the intervening body to ensure that the rights of the child are upheld. However, it is critical that there is a mechanism to ensure that the rights of the parent are also protected, and that the systems that administer these laws are accountable. This is a key role of the FCO, and thus, requires a different skill set and knowledge than that of a general law practitioner.

If you would like to discuss Thrive’s perspective further, please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or email as listed below. Respectfully,

Ellie Jones, M.Ed.
Director of Programming – Education and Outreach
Thrive
709.754.0536 ext.: 210
ejones@thrivecyn.ca
I will see you guys after cabinet for a sec.

Andrew Parsons, QC  
MHA Burgeo-La Poile  
Minister of Justice & Attorney General

We (JPS) are meeting this afternoon to discuss. I would think Nick will speak to this if asked.

Kim Hawley George  
Chief Legislative Counsel and  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services  
Department of Justice and Public Safety  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.

Will Nick be able to speak to media in that event?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.
I suspect this issue will become public very soon. AP

Andrew Parsons, QC
MHA Burgeo-La Poile
Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: Ellie Jones [mailto:ejones@thrivecyn.ca]
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 9:17 AM
To: Parsons, Andrew <AndrewParsons@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Closure of FCO Office

Minister Parsons,
Please see the attached letter regarding the closure of the St. John’s FCO office. If you have any questions, please let me know. Kindest regards,

Ellie Jones, M.Ed.
Director of Programming
www.thrivecyn.ca
Thrive
108 Lemarchant Road
PO Box 26067
St. John’s, NL
A1E 0A5

(T) 754-0536 ext 210
(F) 754-0842
www.thrivecyn.ca

Like us on Facebook: Facebook
Follow us on Twitter: Twitter
Subscribe: YouTube

“This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender.”
Kenny, Haley

From: Stoodley, Amy
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 9:41 AM
To: Hawley, Kim
Subject: RE: Closure of FCO Office

Kim,

Would it make sense for me to sit in on that meeting so I have information for messaging or, would you prefer to fill me in on details following the meeting?

Amy Stoodley
Director of Communications
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Office: 709-729-5188
Cell: 709-693-7242
E-Mail: amystoodley@gov.nl.ca

From: Hawley, Kim
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 9:39 AM
To: Samms, John <JohnSamms@gov.nl.ca>; Parsons, Andrew <AndrewParsons@gov.nl.ca>; Fleming, Mark <MarkFleming@gov.nl.ca>; Fowler, Robin <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca>; Stoodley, Amy <AmyStoodley@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: Closure of FCO Office

We (JPS) are meeting this afternoon to discuss. I would think Nick will speak to this if asked.

Kim Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.

From: Samms, John
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 9:34 AM
To: Parsons, Andrew; Fleming, Mark; Fowler, Robin; Stoodley, Amy; Hawley, Kim
Subject: Re: Closure of FCO Office

Will Nick be able to speak to media in that event?
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

From: Parsons, Andrew  
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 9:29 AM  
To: Samms, John; Fleming, Mark; Fowler, Robin; Stoodley, Amy; Hawley, Kim  
Subject: FW: Closure of FCO Office

I suspect this issue will become public very soon. AP

Andrew Parsons, QC  
MHA Burgeo-La Poile  
Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: Ellie Jones [mailto:ejones@thrivecyn.ca]  
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 9:17 AM  
To: Parsons, Andrew <AndrewParsons@gov.nl.ca>  
Subject: Closure of FCO Office

Minister Parsons,  
Please see the attached letter regarding the closure of the St. John’s FCO office. If you have any questions, please let me know. Kindest regards,

Ellie Jones, M.Ed.  
Director of Programming  
www.thrivecyn.ca  
Thrive  
108 Lemarchant Road  
PO Box 26067  
St. John’s, NL  
A1E 0A5

(T) 754-0536 ext 210  
(F) 754-0842  
www.thrivecyn.ca

Like us on Facebook: Facebook  
Follow us on Twitter: Twitter  
Subscribe: YouTube

“This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender.”
Hi Minister Parsons:
I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to you to express our concerns about some changes coming at the Legal Aid Commission office here in St. John's. I've attached a letter outlining those concerns and can certainly provide the original as well as this scanned copy if necessary. I know you were speaking with Jeannie Piercey, our Coordinator of Momma Moments, last week at the Banff chapter meeting and she has emailed you as well with additional information about this issue.

Please do not hesitate to be in touch with us if you require further information about our work with the Commission.

All the very best,

Linda Warford, M.A., C.C.C.
Director of Policy and Planning
261 Duckworth St.
St. John's, NL, A1C 1G9
P: 709-754-0446. Ext. 213
C: [redacted]
F: 709-726-3125
www.choicesforyouth.ca
On Twitter @lwarfw
July 17, 2017  
Andrew Parsons  
Minister of Justice and Public Safety

Dear Minister Parsons:

It has come to our attention that the Family and Child Legal Aid office in St. John’s is being dismantled by the NL Legal Aid Commission at the end of July as a cost-cutting measure. This office is vitally important to many of the youth we work with who are involved with the Child Protection division of the Department of Children,Seniors and Social Development. This move is of grave concern to Choices for Youth given the significant work that the Family and Child office does with our staff and the youth we serve. The existing team works intensively with us and other service providers to provide wrap-around legal support to very vulnerable young people in our community. The collaborative model that they employ is very effective because it uses a creative, flexible approach that works well with this population. Without a team dedicated to specifically working in this area, we fear that there will be less time and capacity for Legal Aid staff to assist youth which will result in a significant decrease in service to vulnerable families. In fact, we fear this move will actually put up barriers to service for some of youth because there may be conflicts of interest among files at the Legal Aid Commission in which various members of a family are served by the same office. One of the huge benefits to having the Family and Child office as a separate entity of the commission is that there is no risk of such conflicts.

We find the dismantling of this team very disturbing at a time when the province is actively working on the recommendations of the All Party Committee on Mental Health and Addictions in which there is a focus on improving access to services all along the continuum of promotion, prevention, emergency services and enhancing the stability and well-being of families. Youth coming to Choices for Youth need the Family and Child office now more than ever as we are expanding programming particularly in our Momma Moments program and will see double the number of young mothers and their children coming in our doors. We would argue that instead of breaking up the existing team that there is enough demand for the service to add an additional lawyer and paralegal to the team.

We would strongly urge you to take action to prevent this team from being dismantled. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information. I can be reached at 754-0446, ext. 213 or via email at lworford@choicesforyouth.ca

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

Linda P. Warford, M.A., C.C.C.  
Director of Policy and Planning  
Choices for Youth  
Cc: Nick Summers, Provincial Director, NL Legal Aid Commission
Potential copyright material

If you wish to obtain a copy please contact the ATIPP Office at (709) 729-7072 or atipoffice@gov.nl.ca.
Hello everyone,
Please see the attached letter of concern regarding the pending closure of the FCO office in St. John’s. I have previously sent this to Minister Parsons, but understand that he is away and may not have received this information. All the best,

Ellie Jones, M.Ed.
Director of Programming
www.thrivecyn.ca
Thrive
108 Lemarchant Road
PO Box 26067
St. John’s, NL
A1E 0A5

(T) 754-0536 ext 210
(F) 754-0842
www.thrivecyn.ca

Like us on Facebook: Facebook
Follow us on Twitter: Twitter
Subscribe: YouTube

“This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender.”
Can we please print?

Robin Fowler
Assistant Deputy Minister – Courts and Corporate Services (Acting)
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
(t) 709.729.4865 (f) 709.729.2129

This e-mail (including any attachments) is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). The contents of this e-mail may contain personal information and / or be covered by various forms of privilege, including solicitor/client privilege. Any unauthorized copying, distribution, publication or disclosure is prohibited. Receipt of this e-mail by anyone other than the intended recipient does not constitute waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender or the Department of Justice and Public Safety, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and delete all versions of same. Thank you.

From: Ellie Jones [mailto:ejones@thrivecyn.ca]
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2017 1:33 PM
To: Parsons, Andrew; Hawley, Kim; Fowler, Robin
Subject: Family Child Office Closure

Hello everyone,
Please see the attached letter of concern regarding the pending closure of the FCO office in St. John’s. I have previously sent this to Minister Parsons, but understand that he is away and may not have received this information. All the best,

Ellie Jones, M.Ed.
Director of Programming
www.thrivecyn.ca
Thrive
108 Lemarchant Road
PO Box 26067
St. John’s, NL
A1E 0A5

(T) 754-0536 ext 210
(F) 754-0842
www.thrivecyn.ca

Like us on Facebook: Facebook
Follow us on Twitter: Twitter
Subscribe: YouTube
"This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender."
Sure thing. We will send you the story as soon as it's posted and following that, if you wish to comment, we will get in touch.

Amy Stoodley
Director of Communications
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Office: 709-729-5188
Cell: 709-693-7242
E-Mail: amystoodley@gov.nl.ca

Would like to see story first and legal aid comments

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

Hi Minister,

Please see request below.

Amy Stoodley
Communications Director
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

Begin forwarded message:

From: [Redacted]@cbc.ca>
Date: July 20, 2017 at 1:44:14 PM NDT
To: "Clarke, Lesley" <LesleyClarke@gov.nl.ca>, "Stoodley, Amy" <AmyStoodley@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: CBC story

Hi,

I just wanted to touch base with you about the Family and Child Office closing in St. John's. As you suggested, I spoke with Nick Summers and I have done an interview with him. We will be airing this story tonight.

If Minister Parsons is available/interested in commenting at any point, please feel free to get in touch.

Thanks,

CBC News, Newfoundland and Labrador

Web: www.cbc.ca

Subscribe to CBCNL.
We're now on YouTube.
Hi Robin,

Nick Summers and Lauren Chafe have been hoping to arrange a meeting with Minister Parsons re: [redacted] FCO etc. Summer months can be tricky with scheduling but wonder if you may be able to assist us? I’d be happy to try to coordinate some times.

Thanks,
Kim
From: "Hawley, Kim" <kimhawle@gov.nl.ca>
Date: June 27, 2017 at 8:48:27 PM NDT
To: "Fowler, Robin" <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca>
Cc: "Jacobs, Heather" <heatheri@gov.nl.ca>, "Samms, John" <JohnSamms@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Re: Good Afternoon

I now have more information after a call with Nick:

The change is with the St. John's FCO (Family Child Office);

There are various factors figuring into this change which we can discuss tomorrow. They include:
- senior FCO lawyer retirement
- long term absence of paralegal on team
- social worker not being utilized properly; change will allow this person to support all lawyers not just FCO lawyers

- other factors include move from Eliz Ave to Empire, rearrangement of offices etc
- No change to Corner Brook/Goose Bay FCO as they are 'working as intended'
Kimberly Hawley George  
Chief Legislative Counsel and  
ADM, Legal Services  
Department of Justice and Public Safety  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 23, 2017, at 3:52 PM, Fowler, Robin <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Great. That's what I thought.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Hawley, Kim  
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2017 3:42 PM  
To: Fowler, Robin  
Cc: Jacobs, Heather  
Subject: Re: Good Afternoon

Sent too fast. Issue discussed with Minister as you know Robin. Meeting was directed between JPS, LA and courts. Matter was discussed at board LA last week and stayed pending further discussions.

Kimberly Hawley George  
Chief Legislative Counsel and  
ADM, Legal Services  
Department of Justice and Public Safety  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
709.729.4766

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 23, 2017, at 3:37 PM, Fowler, Robin <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca> wrote:

Do we know if these programs are already being discontinued? I thought we were going to try and get legal aid meeting with the court.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Raymond Whalen  
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2017 3:03 PM  
To: Fowler, Robin  
Cc: Deborah E. Fry  
Subject: Re: Good Afternoon

Robin  
I'm out of the province as you know, working by iPhone but just saw this message from LeBlanc J.  

S40(1)  
non-responsive
Dear [Name],

I am working on a matter involving the timely access to resolution of these family disputes. I am meeting with the Minister next Wednesday, this issue now has to be top of my Agenda (where we have several important issues/initiatives already to discuss). Any strategy or action you can take to intervene will be appreciated.

Appreciate all you can do to assist. I’ll follow up with the Minister on Wednesday and hopefully beforehand you’ll work your magic.
Whalen CJ

On Jun 23, 2017, at 10:02 AM, LeBlanc, Richard <richardleblanc@supreme.court.nl.ca> wrote:

Hi Robin.

As well, I was notified this morning that [Redacted] has now ended the Family Child Project which will impact our handling of child protection matters. We wanted to give you notice of this and have a quick chat to see if there is a way to ensure that we do not lose these two projects but most particularly our [Redacted], which provides an invaluable service to parties and staff here. I know that you are busy this afternoon and had trouble getting back yesterday but if you have time to give me a call on Tuesday we would appreciate that. I can be reached on my cellphone at [Redacted] or at my office 729-2681. Thanks and have a great long weekend.

---

“This email and any attached files are intended for the sole use of the primary and copied addressee(s) and may contain privileged and/or confidential information. Any distribution, use or copying by any means of this information is strictly prohibited. If you received this email in error, please delete it immediately and notify the sender.”

<Attach0.html>
Andrew Parsons, QC  
MHA Burgeo-Lapoile/Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: Parsons, Andrew  
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 9:02 AM  
To: Hawley, Kim <kimhawley@gov.nl.ca>  
Subject: RE: Concerns regarding legal aid

Not a bad idea. Let me know how it goes.

Andrew Parsons, QC  
MHA Burgeo-La Poile  
Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: Hawley, Kim  
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 9:02 AM  
To: Parsons, Andrew <AndrewParsons@gov.nl.ca>  
Subject: RE: Concerns regarding legal aid

Thanks, I was going to follow up on this today with you. Would you like me to call her too?

Kim Hawley George  
Chief Legislative Counsel and  
Assistant Deputy Minister. Legal Services  
Department of Justice and Public Safety  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.
To: [Redacted] Hawley, Kim; Fowler, Robin
Subject: RE: Concerns regarding legal aid

Good morning,

I just wanted to touch base to confirm that I did receive your email (as well as your other emails re Family Office). Our Department is taking this issue very seriously and will be looking into it. Please feel free to stay in touch. Thank you,

Andrew

Andrew Parsons, QC
MHA Burgeo-La Poile
Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Parsons, Andrew <AndrewParsons@gov.nl.ca>; Hawley, Kim <kimhawley@gov.nl.ca>; Fowler, Robin <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Concerns regarding legal aid

Hello all,

I am writing this email from my personal email as I feel there is information regarding the St. John’s legal aid office that needs to be brought to light, but I don’t not wish to connect this concern with [Redacted].

For the past number of years I have heard at various times that there has been a [Redacted] at [Redacted]. From what I understand, the information given to me relates to [Redacted].

At this current time, there exists [Redacted] of [Redacted]. The information given to me has eroded the confidence that the public has in the ability of the management of legal aid to ethically support one’s personal life and professional life. I question the impact that this has on the effective operation of legal aid. To be frank, this erodes the soundness of the decisions that would be made by the [Redacted] and again, causes great concern for community members who are seeking support of legal aid.

I cannot express the level of concern I have over the potential damage that [Redacted] have in the trust that community professionals and the public put in legal aid. This service works with the most marginalized individuals within our province, and often, very vulnerable young adults must access legal aid. The knowledge that there was [Redacted] and [Redacted] erodes the confidence that the public has in the ability of the management of legal aid to ethically support one’s personal life and professional life. I question the impact that this has on the effective operation of legal aid. To be frank, this erodes the soundness of the decisions that would be made by the [Redacted] and again, causes great concern for community members who are seeking support of legal aid.

In order for our justice system to be effective, there must be a level of trust in the legal services provided to our most vulnerable. Information, rumors, and speculation of this nature erodes this sense of trust, and only serves to further harm the individuals who have no choice but to rely in legal aid. If anything, individual’s in a position of power are held to a higher standard, and stricter still when it comes to a public service such as legal aid.

I have previously sent a professional letter regarding the closure of the FCO office, and I feel very strongly that before further steps are taken regarding this closure, there should be a [Redacted] needs to take place.

Kindest regards,
Good stuff. Thanks. AP

Andrew Parsons, QC
MHA Burgeo-Lapoile/Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: Parsons, Andrew
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 9:28 AM
To: Hawley, Kim <kimhawley@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: RE: Concerns regarding legal aid

I discussed this with her and it went very well. I told her you take it very seriously and that we will be following up again were concerned about the matters she disclosed. WRT the FCO closures (the other letter) I told her you were meeting with [mask] in next week (set up for the 8th) to find a way through these challenging times.

She really appreciated the call.

K

Kim Hawley George
Chief Legislative Counsel and
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services
Department of Justice and Public Safety
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

t: 709-729-4766

This e-mail is confidential and solicitor-client privileged. Any unauthorized copying, distribution or disclosure is prohibited. Disclosure to anyone other than the recipient does not constitute a waiver of privilege. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify me immediately and delete all versions of same.
From: Parsons, Andrew
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2017 9:01 AM
To: [REDACTED] Hawley, Kim; Fowler, Robin
Subject: RE: Concerns regarding legal aid

Good morning [REDACTED],

I just wanted to touch base to confirm that I did receive your email (as well as your other emails re Family Office). Our Department is taking this issue very seriously and will be looking into it. Please feel free to stay in touch. Thank you,

Andrew

Andrew Parsons, QC
MHA Burgeo-La Poile
Minister of Justice & Attorney General

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Parsons, Andrew <AndrewParsons@gov.nl.ca>; Hawley, Kim <kimhawley@gov.nl.ca>; Fowler, Robin <RobinFowler@gov.nl.ca>
Subject: Concerns regarding legal aid

Hello all,
I am writing this email from my personal email as I feel there is information regarding the St. John’s legal aid office that needs to be brought to light, but I don’t not wish to connect this concern with [REDACTED]. Specifically, these

For the past number of years I have heard at various times that there has been [REDACTED]. At this current time, there exists [REDACTED]. The information given to me relates to [REDACTED].

I cannot express the level of concern I have over the potential damage that have in the trust that community professionals and the public put in legal aid. This service works with the most marginalized individuals within our province, and often, very vulnerable young adults must access legal aid. The knowledge that there [REDACTED] the confidence that the public has in the ability of the management of legal aid to ethically support appreciate that one’s personal life is separate from the professional, I question the impact that [REDACTED] have on the effective operation of legal aid. To be frank, [REDACTED] and again, causes great concern for community members who are seeking support of legal aid.

In order for our justice system to be effective, there must be a level of trust in the legal services provided to our most vulnerable. Information, rumors, and speculation of this nature erodes this sense of trust, and only serves to further harm the individuals who have no choice but to rely in legal aid. If anything, individual’s in a position of power are held to a higher standard, and stricter still when it comes to a public service such as legal aid.

I have previously sent a professional letter regarding the closure of the FCO office, and I feel very strongly that before further steps are taken regarding this closure, there should be [REDACTED] needs to take place.

Kindest regards,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Kenny, Haley</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>From:</strong> Parsons, Andrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sent:</strong> Tuesday, August 1, 2017 1:16 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>To:</strong> Croke, Neil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subject:</strong> FW: Family and Child Office</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Andrew Parsons, QC  
MHA Burgeo-Lapoile/Minister of Justice & Attorney General

| **From:** Parsons, Andrew |
| **Sent:** Thursday, July 6, 2017 3:02 PM |
| **To:** Samms, John <JohnSamms@gov.nl.ca> |
| **Subject:** FW: Family and Child Office |

Call me

Andrew K. Parsons, QC  
MHA, District of Burgeo-La Poile

| **From:** Moss-Adams, Riley |
| **Sent:** Thursday, July 06, 2017 3:00 PM |
| **To:** Parsons, Andrew  
**Cc:** rileymmoss@gmail.com |
| **Subject:** Family and Child Office |

Andrew, just wondering if we can connect on this. It seems that things are quickly moving ahead towards the closure of our office. My cell is [redacted] Thanks, Riley

Riley M. Moss, B.A, LL.B  
Family & Child Legal Aid Office  
Barrister, Solicitor & Notary  
Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission

tel 709.753-0722 | fax 709.753-0723  
Suite 101  
251 Empire Avenue  
St. John’s NL A1C 3H9

rileymoss@legalaid.nl.ca  
www.legalaid.nl.ca

S40(1)