November 8, 2018

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [Our File #: FIN-88-2018]

On October 11, 2018, the Department of Finance received your access to information request for the following:

“I would like to receive information pertaining to the Carbon Tax from July 2017 until the present day. Specifically - Briefing notes - How much revenue is projected for the carbon tax in the 2019/2020 fiscal year and the 2020/2021 fiscal year.”

On October 29, 2018, this was further clarified in our telephone conversation for documents created pertaining to revenue projections from the carbon tax.

Please be advised that your request for access to the above noted information has been denied.

The information requested was created to support the 2018 Provincial Budget, which is a Cabinet decision-making process, and/or is a memorandum to the Cabinet. Additionally, the requested records contain advice, recommendations and/or policy considerations which were created during the process of developing or preparing a submission for Cabinet. As such, and in accordance with the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 (the Act) this information is considered as a cabinet record and access must be denied in accordance with the following exception to disclosure:

Cabinet Confidences:

27. (1) In this section, "cabinet record" means
(a) advice, recommendations or policy considerations submitted or prepared for submission to the Cabinet
(b) a memorandum, the purpose of which is to present proposals or recommendations to the Cabinet;
(h) a record created during the process of developing or preparing a submission for the Cabinet

(2) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose to an applicant
(a) a cabinet record
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.

Please be advised that the response 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 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 the undersigned by telephone at 709-729-2082, or by email at bethbartlett@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Beth Bartlett  
Beth Bartlett, CIAPP-C  
ATIPP Coordinator