January 13, 2016

Dear Applicant:

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Our File #: EDU/034/2015)

On December 23, 2015, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development received your request for access to the following records/information:

"Briefing materials – in any and all formats, including paper and electronic – prepared for, and/or provided to, the minister related to the institution of full-day Kindergarten in the province. Date range of request is Nov. 1, 2015 to the present."

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Deputy Minister for the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to provide access to the requested information. In accordance with your request for a copy of the records, the appropriate copies have been enclosed.

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. 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 709-729-1841 or by e-mail at brianevans@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

Brian Evans
Director of Information Management & Special Projects
ATIPP Coordinator
Title: Full-Day Kindergarten Preparation

Issue: To inform the Minister on the implementation of the full-day Kindergarten (FDK) initiative.

Background and Current Status:

- Plans are underway to implement infrastructure, resources, and supports required for implementation of a universal FDK program, effective September 2016.

- The total cost to implement the initiative, including first year implementation, is $31.7 million (as at Budget 2015), including:
  - Infrastructure upgrades (extensions, modulars and renovations) - $17.8 million
  - New teachers (approximately 142.5) - $7.1 million in 2016-17 (Sept. 2016 to Mar. 2017; 7 months).
  - Programming (professional learning, purchase of resources, evaluation) - $3.3 million.
  - Child care services - $3.5 million

- Subsequent to implementation, the annual cost of the initiative will be $13.3 million for teaching and programming.

- There are approximately 190 schools in the province that offer Kindergarten and all have been assessed for FDK implementation:

  - As of November 2015, 16 schools require additional space (e.g., modulars/extensions). However, the Department is continuing to monitor enrolment projections in consultation with the NL English School District (NLESD) and will adjust the infrastructure plans, as required. The list of schools is included in Annex A.

  - As of November 2015, 12 schools are anticipated to utilize team teaching to implement FDK in September 2016. The list of schools is included in Annex A. This list may be revised as further enrolment data for schools are received and reviewed.

- The Department is on schedule with the infrastructure component. As of November 2015:
  - Two full-time engineers were hired by the department in 2014-15 to plan and implement infrastructure requirements for FDK.
  - The supply of all FDK modular classrooms have been tendered and awarded (based on planning to date).
  - Construction of links and installation of modular classrooms is complete, underway or tendered for six schools. Additional tenders will be issued throughout the year to construct links and install modular classrooms at remaining schools.
  - Tenders have been awarded for extensions at three schools (Mary Queen of Peace Elementary, Carbonear Academy and St. Francis of Assisi Elementary).
  - The NLESD is also in the process of tendering an extension to Pasadena Elementary (issuing a number of tenders; foundations tendered in fall 2015).
• The NLESD has completed approximately 100 renovations at various schools in preparation for FDK.

• NLESD is directly involved in planning related to infrastructure, programming, and evaluation. There has been follow-up with the CSFP from a program/resource perspective since they already have FDK at their schools.

• The Department is on target with programming for full-day Kindergarten.

• A program planning committee and sub-committees are established to focus on the following:
  - Purchasing and storage of resources required for classroom.
  - Professional learning focusing on: early childhood learning framework, play pedagogy and assessment/document for all kindergarten teachers and orientation to the Completely Kindergarten curriculum (new teachers only).
  - Transitioning children with exceptionalities.
  - Evaluation of full-day Kindergarten.

Analysis:
• The impact of full-day Kindergarten on regulated child care has been identified. A departmental sub-committee is in the process of being developed to assess this impact.

• The department is on schedule to implement full-day Kindergarten in September 2016.

• The initiative is currently being implemented within the approved budget.

Action Being Taken:
• Planning and provision of all necessary programming and infrastructure supports to implement FDK in September 2016 are continuing.

Prepared/approved by:  H. Butt / P. Hennessey / N. Hallett / I. Clarke / E. Walsh / J. Vivian-Walsh

November 26, 2015

BN/15/324
Annex A

Schools Receiving Extensions or Modular Classrooms

Extensions:
- Carbonear Academy, Carbonear
- Mary Queen of Peace Elementary, St. John’s
- St. Francis of Assisi Elementary, Logy Bay/Middle Cove/Outer Cove
- Pasadena Elementary, Pasadena

Modular Classrooms:
- Riverside Elementary, Shoal Harbour
- St. Edward’s Elementary, CBS
- St. Bernard’s Elementary, Witless Bay
- C.C. Loughlin Elementary, Corner Brook
- J.J. Curling Elementary, Corner Brook
- Coley’s Point Primary, Coley’s Point
- Cape St. Francis Elementary, Pouch Cove
- Holy Cross Elementary, Holyrood
- St. Peter’s Elementary, Mt. Pearl
- St. George’s Elementary, CBS
- Centreville Academy, Centreville-Wareham
- Gander Academy, Gander

Schools Where Team Teaching is Anticipated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coley’s Point Primary</td>
<td>Coley’s Point</td>
<td>In the interim until new school opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowan Heights</td>
<td>St. John’s</td>
<td>Possibly in French Immersion, depending on enrolment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gander Academy</td>
<td>Gander</td>
<td>In the interim until the new 4-6 school opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humber Elementary</td>
<td>Corner Brook</td>
<td>Only if delay in renovations at G.C. Rowe (The Corner Brook reorganization plan closes Humber Elementary moving students to the former G.C. Rowe)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larkhall Academy</td>
<td>St. John’s</td>
<td>In the interim but the District is exploring options once the new 5-9 school in Portugal Cove St. Phillips opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McDonald Drive</td>
<td>St. John’s</td>
<td>In French Immersion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside Elementary</td>
<td>Shoal Harbour</td>
<td>In the interim until the extension is completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s Elementary</td>
<td>St. John’s</td>
<td>Only if kindergarten enrolment exceeds 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Peter’s Elementary</td>
<td>Mount Pearl</td>
<td>In the interim until the extension is constructed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>Town</td>
<td>Enrolment Options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephenville Primary</td>
<td>Stephenville</td>
<td>Possibly in French Immersion, depending on enrolment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanier Elementary</td>
<td>St. John’s</td>
<td>Possibly in French Immersion, depending on enrolment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Hills Academy</td>
<td>St. Anthony</td>
<td>Possibly, depending on enrolment</td>
</tr>
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Early Childhood Learning Division

• The Division of Early Childhood Learning was created in January 2005, to focus on the early learning needs of pre-school children, and to develop and implement programs which will provide a solid foundation for success in school.

• In 2011, there was a priority focus on the birth to age three years old period throughout Learning from the Start, provincial strategy on early childhood learning.

• In 2014, additional and new focus on development, implementation and evaluation of full-day kindergarten.
Staffing

- 1 Director
- 3 Program Consultants
- 1 Administrative Officer
Responsibilities

• Oversee *Learning from the Start* – Provincial Early Childhood Learning Strategy (birth to age six)
• Focus on the early learning needs of children and their families
• Provide and early learning resources to parents, in partnership with other departments and agencies, to support and enhance early learning opportunities at home and from birth
• Share professional resource materials to educators in early learning programs
• Support transition to school through KinderStart Program
Responsibilities

• Consult with Program Development Division for Kindergarten, teacher training and resources
• Partner with Evaluation and Research Division to evaluate all early learning initiatives
• Oversee Early Development Instrument (EDI) and Early Years Evaluation (EYE) assessments
• Coordinate the development, implementation and evaluation of Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) with a specific focus on programming and Professional Learning in partnership with all Divisions within the K-12 and Early Childhood Development Branch and the two school Districts
Learning from the Start initiatives:

• Parent Resource Kits
  – Partnership with Regional Health Authorities

• Early Literacy Foundations Program
  – Partnership with NL Public Libraries

• Website Development

• Promotional Campaign: The Power of Play

• Development of an Early Childhood Learning Framework

• Development of an Evaluation Framework

• Enhanced KinderStart Program

• Full-day kindergarten
Design and Construction Overview

- The Division of Design and Construction consists of 15 members including engineering, technical, financial and clerical staff:
  - Director
  - Manager
  - Project Managers (engineers and one architect)
  - Technical Services Inspector
  - Industrial Hygienist
  - Occupational Health and Safety Consultant
  - Financial Officer
  - Departmental Program Coordinator
  - Clerk Typist III
- The Division reports to the Assistant Deputy Minister (Infrastructure).
- All staff are located on the 3rd floor, West Block.
Design and Construction Overview

The Design and Construction Division is responsible for:

- providing recommendations and preliminary budget estimates to government related to forecasts and immediate requirements in the area of new school construction, major extensions and/or renovations as well as managing all aspects of the capital maintenance of school buildings;

- providing technical expertise to other departments, school boards and engineering/architectural consultants on issues related to programming, school design and construction;

- monitoring compliance with Occupational Health and Safety codes and legislation;
Design and Construction Overview

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- providing consultative services to school boards on matters related to school building maintenance, air quality and water quality matters and capital renewal; and

- ensuring compliance of school construction to the Department’s procedures and approved specifications, the provisions of the School Planning Manual, good engineering practices, the *Schools Act, 1997*, applicable building codes and regulations and legislative requirements of other regulatory authorities.
Current/Emerging Issues

School Capacity:

• Population growth creating capacity issues - northeast Avalon, Gander, Clarenville and the Witless Bay/Mobile areas.

• Capacity issues have drawn attention from the public, particularly in areas where population growth has been rapid.

• Construction and/or planning is underway for a number of projects to address student capacity (new schools and extensions).

• The Department, along with the Department of Transportation and Works, is continuing with planning, design and/or construction on currently approved projects and will assess new priorities for Budget 2016 once they are received from the school boards.
Current/Emerging Issues

Full Day Kindergarten:

• Currently working towards a September 2016 implementation as publically announced.
• Extensions, renovations and modular classrooms underway at various schools to create necessary capacity.
• The majority of renovations required are being managed by the NL English School District.
• Work is currently being completed within approved budget and within schedule.
• Budget for the infrastructure component, including furniture and equipment, is $17.8 million (as at Budget 2015).