March 7, 2019

Dear Applicant:

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Our File #: EEC/013/2018)

On February 18, 2019, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (the Department) received your request for access to the following records/information:

"Records from December 2015 to the date of this request, regarding school violence, specifically incidents of violence against school faculty or students. Emails and documents regarding the development of protocols for dealing with such."

The Deputy Minister for the Department has reviewed this request and the Department has no records responsive to your request.

The Safe and Caring Schools (SCS) Policy was adopted in 2013. It includes provisions concerning incidents of bullying and violence against students. While the SCS Policy was developed by the Department, the responsibility for day-to-day implementation of the SCS Policy rests with school districts and schools. Information about the SCS Policy is at https://www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/K12/safeandcaring/index.html.

School districts are the employer of teachers in public schools throughout the province and records regarding their employees would be in their custody and control. As such, there is no reporting requirement for school districts to indicate incidents of violence against teachers to the department.

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

P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, Canada A1B 4J6 t 709.729.1828 f 709.729.3462
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 this letter will be published following a 72 hour period after it 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 letter 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 709-729-7180 or by email at garynoftall@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gary Noftall
ATIPP Coordinator