

May 23, 2019



Dear :

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (File # NR-87-2019)

On May 13, 2019, the Department of Natural Resources received your request for access to the following records/information:

**Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure at the Natural Resources Building
Decision Note from March 2019.**

I am pleased to inform you that a decision has been made by the Department of Natural Resources, confirmed by the Deputy Minister, to provide access to the requested records. The records are attached.

We are providing access to the most information possible but have made one redaction in accordance with Section 31(1)(l) of *ATIPPA, 2015* as follows:

31. (1)(l) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose information to an applicant where the disclosure could reasonably be expected to reveal the arrangements for the security of property or a system, including a building, a vehicle, a computer system or a communications system.

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 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.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 709-729-0463 or rhynes@gov.nl.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rod Hynes".

Rod Hynes
ATIPP Coordinator

Decision Note
Department of Natural Resources

Title: Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure at the Natural Resources Building

Decision Required:

- Whether to approve the purchase and installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure at the Natural Resources (NR) Building.

Background and Current Status:

- The Department of Natural Resources (NR) allocated \$21,900 in its 2018-19 budget for the purchase and installation of EV charging infrastructure at the NR Building on Elizabeth Avenue.
- There are between 50-70 charging stations (levels 1 and 2) available for public use in the Province. The majority of these are located on the Northeast Avalon.
- The electrification of transportation and space heating is a priority of the Province's in its approach to mitigating the impact of the Muskrat Falls Project.

Analysis:

- NR has consulted the Department of Transportation and Works (TW) regarding potential sites at the NR Building where EV charges could be installed with minimal construction costs and maximum visibility.
- TW advises that the most feasible location for the installation of EV chargers is the east side of the building where there is presently a row of three parking spaces. This site was identified due to the availability of electrical connections inside the building that could provide electricity to two EV chargers with minimal construction required (e.g. there is no need to tear up asphalt). The chargers would be installed on the side of the building on metal siding and would be installed high enough so as not to be covered by snow. It was not possible to do this on the west side of the building due to there being windows.
- The estimated cost for the purchase and installation of two level II EV charging stations (EVR30-B18) at the NR building is \$15,000 plus HST. This quote was provided by TW's Electrical Contractor. The Contractor suggested work could be completed before end of fiscal year, March 31, 2019. Should work not be completed by that time, similar funding resources are anticipated to be carried over into fiscal 2019-20.
- NR will work with TW to further maximize visibility of the EV chargers; including putting up signage and painting the parking spaces green.
- NR notes that the EV chargers will be a no-fee service for the short-term, consistent with other public charging stations in the province.

Alternatives:

1. Approval is requested to install two EV chargers at the NR Building. (**Recommended**)

Advantages:

- Budgeted funds will be used for intended purpose.

- NR will lead by example and promote the use of EVs.
- Purchase and installation of EV charging infrastructure is in line with the Province's priorities, including electrification and it's recently released Climate Change plan.

Disadvantages:

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- Funds could be used for budget savings.

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2. Do not approve the installation of two EV chargers at the NR Building.

Advantages:

- There would be no cost of purchasing or installing EV chargers at the NR Building.


Disadvantages:

- Budgeted funds will be left unused.
- NR will not lead by example or promote the use of EVs.

Prepared by/Approved by: S. Brewer/L. MacDonald/ C. Snook

Approval: Pending

March 15, 2019


20/3/19