

July 3, 2026

Dear Applicant,

Re: Your request for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015 (JPS/105/2026)

On June 3, 2026, the Department of Justice and Public Safety (JPS) received your request for access to records/information read as follows:

Records related to the cost of external legal counsel incurred by the province in the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador matter bearing court No. 024 01G 3557, bearing the style of cause of His Majesty in Right of NL v. AGC et al.

On June 12, 2026, you confirmed that the court file number is: 202401G3557.

Please be advised that JPS has conducted a comprehensive search for the specified records. After a thorough review, the Deputy Minister wishes to advise access has been denied to the responsive records for the above request. Access to the information has been exempt from disclosure pursuant to the following exceptions under the **Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015** (the Act):

Legal advice

- 30.** (1) The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information
- (a) that is subject to solicitor and client privilege or litigation privilege of a public body

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 ATIPPA, 2015 (a copy of this section has been enclosed for your reference). A request to the Commissioner must be made in writing not later than 15 business days of the date of this letter or 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
5th Floor, Beothuck Building
20 Crosbie Place
P. O. Box 13004, Stn. A
St. John's, NL. A1B 3V8

Telephone: (709) 729-6309

Toll-Free: 1-877-729-6309

Email: commissioner@oipc.nl.ca

You may also appeal directly to the Supreme Court within 15 business days after you receive the decision of the public body, pursuant to section 52 of ATIPPA, 2015 (a copy of this section of the Act has been enclosed for your reference).

Please be advised that this request may be published on the [Completed Access to Information Requests](#) website. Requests will be posted when possible, but no sooner than three business days after a response is sent electronically, or five business days where a response is sent by mail. Please note that requests for personal information will not be posted online. Additional details regarding the process for publishing requests online can be found [here](#).

Should you wish to discuss, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at ATIPPJPS@gov.nl.ca.

Kindest Regards,

Hannah DeBourke

ATI 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).