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Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Health and Community Services
Office of the Minister

Mr. Rob Antle The Telegram 1 Columbus Drive P. O. Box 5970 St. John's, NL A1C 5X7 COPY

Dear Mr. Antle:

Re: Your request(s) for access to information under Part II of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act [Our Files #: HCS ATI 07010, HCS ATI 07011, HCS ATI 07012)]

On June 12, 2007, the Department of Health and Community Services received your three requests for access to the following records/information:

1. Briefing notes - in any and all formats, including paper & electronic - prepared for the Minister on the ER/PR cancer testing issue at Eastern Health. Time frame of request is Jan. 1, 2005, to March 14, 2006, inclusive.

 Briefing notes - in any and all formats, including paper & electronic - prepared for the Minister on the ER/PR cancer testing issue at Eastern Health. Time frame of request is March 14, 2006 through Jan. 19, 2007, inclusive.

 Briefing notes - in any and all formats, including paper & electronic - prepared for the Minister on the ER/PR cancer testing issue at Eastern Health. Time frame of request is Jan. 19, 2007 to present.

The Department of Health and Community Services has reviewed and assessed the relevant documents in the context of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the Act). The Department of Health and Community Services has decided to give partial access to these documents that are responsive to your request pending the payment of photocopying fees as outlined in my letter dated July 12, 2007. We are now in receipt of your fee payment and you will find attached a copy of the responsive documents with severed passages.

Information that is non-responsive to the request has been severed. Access to parts of the documents are being denied in accordance with:

- a) paragraph 20(1)(a) of ATIPP whereby disclosure would reveal advice or recommendations developed by or for a public body or a minister;
- b) section 21 of ATIPP whereby disclosure would disclose legal opinions provided to a public body by a law officer of the Crown;

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- c) section 24 of ATIPP whereby disclosure could harm the financial or economic interest of the province; and
- d) section 30 of ATIPP whereby personal information cannot be disclosed.

As you may be aware, you may appeal this decision to the Trial Division of the Supreme Court or request a review of the decision by the Information and Privacy Commissioner, pursuant to Section 12 of the Act. A request for review should be made in writing to the following attention:

Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner
5th Floor, East Block
Confederation Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Telephone: (709) 729-6309 Facsimile: (709) 729-6500 Email: oipc@gov.nl.ca

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Reg Coates at 729-3421 or via email at reoates@gov.nl.ca. If I can be of further assistance, please advise accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

ROSS WISEMAN, MHA Trinity North District Minister

/rlc Encl.