

**From:** Robert Thompson  
**To:** John Abbott; Moira Hennessey  
**Date:** 5/20/2007 2:40:51 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Review

Yes, you could get names of these people from George, but don't ask him generally who he would suggest for the review.

As for the other info, I have read the materials available to me more closely and I am a little better informed. There seems to be a standard of 75% positive, as revealed by the literature, and our results were ranging from 62% to 83% between 2000 and 2004. This still leaves many questions (e.g., was the 75% standard based on the same testing system as ours?).

As for the specific reasons why the errors occurred, the best explanation is in Heather Predham's affidavit, but even there it simply provides a menu of possibilities, not a precise conclusion.

As I think about this more, the question for Cabinet on the clinical part of the review is whether it wants this conducted by a public review or simply leave it to the litigation. The issues are similar. The question for us to advise on is whether the court case will actually address all the issues which are important for the public interest.

Robert

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>>> Moira Hennessey 5/20/2007 12:42 PM >>>

Robert,

John and I have just discussed. One option is for Government to appoint a three member panel chaired by a prominent Newfoundlander such as a retired judge or lawyer. The panel could include the Chief of Pathology and Chief of Laboratory Medicine at Mount Sinai or Montreal where we understand the leading experts work. Is it OK for us to discuss where the leading experts are with George T?

There is nothing in the material we have that addresses your points. Eastern Health would have to address specifically.

Moira

Sent via Blackberry  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Thompson  
To: John Abbott <[JohnAbbott@gov.nl.ca](mailto:JohnAbbott@gov.nl.ca)>  
Moira Hennessey <[MHennessey@gov.nl.ca](mailto:MHennessey@gov.nl.ca)>  
Creation Date: 5/19 10:38 pm  
Subject: Review

We need to be ready with names of potential commissioners or reviewers if Govt opts to go a different route than a consultant. Would you please identify some appropriate names from the

health/oncology/pathology fields, from another jurisdiction, that govt might consider asking. It would also be useful to have several consulting firms identified Justice will be identifying several judges just in case it swings that way.

I suspect we will get initial Cabinet direction Monday night, and will have a day or two to identify who will lead the review and finalize the terms of reference.

Some things are not clear to me, though perhaps they are in the material somewhere. Was the error rate between 1997 and 2005 significantly higher than similar testing done elsewhere by the same technology? Have any of the internal reviews so far identified the exact causes? If there is material available on this question I would appreciate receiving it (even electronically over the weekend). Thanks

Robert

Robert

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