Submission to the Statutory Review Committee on *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

August 20, 2014 (4:00 PM)

An e-mail from Martin B. Hammond to the ATIPPA Review Committee

Subject: Bill 29

Dear Committee Members:

Government should not have any right to hide information on the business that they are conducting on behalf of the people they are representing. They are elected to only act on our behalf; therefore, we should have the right to access information free of charge. Why are our elected officials always trying to deny the citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador access to information - what are they trying to hide. They are not a private corporation trying to develop some miracle drug to cure everything or developing specialized tools to sell in the marketplace. The elected officials are spending our money and getting paid a good salary plus retirement benefits and the retirement benefits they are getting for the short time they are in government they would never get in private enterprise. If we were at war, and information that would be helpful to our adversaries of course then we got to keep secrets, but the everyday business of government and crown corporations the money they spend should be available to the general public. We are a controlled and regulated society and the spirit of private enterprise is slowly being eroded by the regulations government imposes upon us. I realize for the wellbeing of the general public there is need for regulation but government is going to hell with it and it is costing the taxpayers of Newfoundland and Labrador countless millions of dollars for frivolous legislations that there is no need of. I truly think the public of Newfoundland and Labrador have just thrown up their arms and let our present and past governments get away with matters that if it were private enterprise they would be fired on the spot.

Thank you,

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