

March 24, 2021



Dear 

Re: You are entitled to the information you requested - 2021-00085-HEA

The Department of Health and Wellness received your application for access to information under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (the Act) on January 21, 2021.

In your application, you requested a copy of the following records:

Provide a list of all exceptions or exemptions granted by the chief medical officer of health to the COVID-19 travel restrictions. Anonymize records but provide the reason for each exemption. Provide a figure of the total number of exemptions granted. Data should be inclusive from Aug. 1, 2020 to Jan. 21, 2021 (Date Range for Record Search: From 8/1/2020 To 1/21/2021)

Responsive records have been located and are attached.

You have the right to ask for a review of this decision by the Information Access and Privacy Commissioner (formerly the Review Officer). You have 60 days from the date of this letter to exercise this right. If you wish to ask for a review, you may do so on Form 7, a copy of which is attached. Send the completed form to the Information Access and Privacy Commissioner, P.O. Box 181, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2M4.

Please be advised that a de-identified copy of this disclosure letter and the attached response to your FOIPOP application will be made public after 14 days. The package will be posted online at <https://openinformation.novascotia.ca/>. The letter will not include your name, address, or any other personal information that you have supplied while making your application under FOIPOP.

Please contact Melinda Frelick at 902-424-6920 or by e-mail at melinda.frelick@novascotia.ca, if you need further assistance regarding this application.

Sincerely,



Jeannine Lagassé
Associate Deputy Minister
Attachment

Exceptions Request Summary – August 1st, 2020 – January 21st, 2021

Type of Exception/Category	# of Exception Requests Received	# of Exception Requests Approved	# of Exception Requests Denied	# of Requests Expired/No Longer Required ***
Business	197	46	79	72
End of Life *	671	512	32	127
Funeral*	639	554	33	52
Support**	383	124	132	127
Non-Essential Travel	46	3	42	1
Health Care Workers	12	6	1	5
Military/RCMP	2	2	0	0
Students	13	5	4	4
Covid-19 Immunity	57	50	6	1
TOTALS	2020	1302	329	389

* each request may include multiple people travelling together under the same exception letter/document.

** includes medical, child custody, religious organizations, and other non-standard requests.

***requests where applicant no longer required an exception OR did not respond back to exceptions team with additional information requested to support the original request.