



Subject: *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

I am writing in response to your request of June 18, 2020, under the *Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("the Act") for:

"Please provide documentation on the number of cancelled or postponed surgeries, health procedures and consultations due to COVID-19. Please be sure to provide any other documentation related to the impact on health care waiting lists due to COVID-19 {and postponed/cancelled health procedures, surgeries, consultations, etc.)."

The time period for the requested records is February 1, 2020 to June 9, 2020.

Information specific to cancellations is held uniquely by each zone in the province. The Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) are responsible for reporting cancellations within the RHAs. Please contact the RHAs directly for information related to cancellations. Their contact information is attached.

However, the Department can advise that the volume of prioritized surgeries waiting in New Brunswick increased from 19 075 on March 13, 2020 to 20 637 as of June 10, 2020. The pandemic had no impact on surgeries prior to March 13, 2020.

If you are not satisfied with the response that has been provided, you may file a complaint with the Office of the Ombud as per subparagraph 67(1)(a)(i) **within 40 business days** of receiving this response or refer the matter to a judge of the Court of Queen's Bench as per paragraph 65(1)(a) **within 40 business days** of receiving this response.

If you have any questions concerning this response, please contact Chelsea Jennings, Policy Advisor, at (506) 444-3510 or Chelsea.Jennings@gnb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. Flemming".

Hon. Hugh J. Flemming, Q.C.
Minister

Enclosure

