Education and Early Childhood Development Office of the Deputy Minister

PO Box 578 Halifax, Nova Scotia

902 424-0680 **F** www.gov.ns.ca

June 15, 2021

Shelly Hipson

RR3, Shelburne, NS B0T1W0

Sent via email: shellyhipson@xplornet.ca

Dear Shelly Hipson:

Re: We do not have the information you asked for - 2021-01109-EDU

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development received your application for access to information under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* on June 3, 2021.

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

Final briefing notes to the Deputy Minister pertaining to any risk-benefit analysis on decision-making around masking children in schools. (Date Range for Record Search: From 11/1/2020 To 6/3/2021)

After a file search, we have located no records responsive to your application. Therefore, it is my understanding, pursuant to clause 7(2)(b) of the *Act*, that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not have custody or control of (a) record(s) which would respond to your application.

I am unaware of a department or agency which would hold such (a) record(s).

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 Neil Frelick at 902-424-3843 or by e-mail at neil.frelick@novascotia.ca, if you need further assistance regarding this application.

Yours truly,

Cathy Montreuil Deputy Minister

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Attach.