

April 28, 2023

Shelly Hipson  
Sent via email: shellyhipson@gmail.com

Dear Shelly Hipson:

**Re: You are entitled to part of the information you requested – 2023-00345-HEA**

The Department of Health and Wellness received your application for access to information under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* on February 27, 2023.

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

*All emails, records, reports, and correspondence sent and received by Dr. Shelley Deeks, Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health, on the topic of people who had Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) after receiving any of the COVID-19 vaccines. (no personal identifying information.)*

*(Date Range for Record Search: From 12/15/2020 To 02/26/2023)*

You are entitled to part of the records requested. However, we have removed some of the information from this record according to subsection 5(2) of the Act. The severed information is exempt from disclosure under the Act for the following reasons:

- Section 14: advice by or for a public body or minister.  
14(1), The head of a public body may refuse to disclose to an applicant information that would reveal advice, recommendations or draft regulations developed by or for a public body or a minister.
- Section 18: Health and Safety  
18(1)(a), Threaten anyone else's safety or mental or physical health.
- Section 20: unreasonable invasion of personal privacy.  
20(1), The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.

Information that is not regarding people who had Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) after receiving any of the COVID-19 vaccines has been marked as not responsive. The remainder of the records are enclosed.

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](mailto:melinda.frelick@novascotia.ca), if you need further assistance regarding this application.

Yours truly,



Kathleen Trott  
Associate Deputy Minister

Attach.