



August 5th, 2021

J.Y. Hoh
Centre for Law and Democracy
39 Chartwell Lane
Halifax, NS B3M 3S7
By email: jyhoh@law-democracy.org

Dear Mr. Hoh:

Re: FOIPOP Act

Thank you for your correspondence in the above noted matter.

Our government shares your commitment to open and transparent democratic government institutions that make appropriate information freely available.

As you noted in your correspondence, Premier Rankin has tasked his Minister of Justice and Attorney-General with creating an advisory committee to conduct a review of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The goal of this committee is to make recommendations on how to modernize this piece of legislation.

A re-elected Rankin government is committed to the review and recommendation process. It would be premature to commit to making specific changes to this piece of legislation prior to the work of the committee being completed. This would be usurping the role of the committee without the benefit of the thorough analysis of the Act that the committee is tasked with. We must be mindful that the Act is a balance between free information and the protection of privacy in appropriate circumstances.

Thank you for your correspondence.