



# It's Your Right to Know!

Celebrating Right to Know Week in Newfoundland and Labrador



## Did You Know?

You have the right to access information held by public bodies in Newfoundland and Labrador.

This means you can ask for information from government departments, agencies, crown corporations, towns, cities, NLHS, and other public bodies in our province.

Anyone in Newfoundland and Labrador can make an access to information request; just fill out the request form and send it in!

Information can only be withheld from you under limited circumstances; If you disagree with the public body's response, you can ask for a review by filing a complaint with our Office.

Your right to access information is found in the **Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act, 2015** (ATIPPA, 2015).

## Access Principles

1. Access to information is a right of everyone.
2. Access is the rule. Secrecy is the exception.
3. The right applies to all public bodies.
4. Making requests should be simple, speedy, and free.
5. Officials have a duty to assist requesters.
6. Refusals must be justified.
7. The public interest takes precedence over secrecy.
8. Everyone has the right to appeal an adverse decision.
9. Public bodies should proactively publish core information.
10. The right to know should be guaranteed by an independent body.

Our province's legislation closely aligns with these core principles on the right of access to information, which were developed by the Open Society Justice Initiative, together with partner organizations.

## Want to Make an Access Request?

Visit <https://www.oipc.nl.ca/public/how-to-request-records/> or contact our Office to learn more about accessing the information held by public bodies in our province.



OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION  
AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

[www.oipc.nl.ca](http://www.oipc.nl.ca) 1.877.729.6309