



**Nova Scotia Freedom of Information
and Protection of Privacy Act**

2007 Annual Report

**N.S. Department of Justice
March 17, 2008**

Message from the Minister of Justice

I am pleased to provide the fifth annual Department of Justice report on activity under the *Nova Scotia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The Government continues to honour its commitment to provide an annual summary of statistics related to FOIPOP applications not only across government, but also with all public bodies and municipalities. This marks the fourth year that we have provided data on all public bodies and municipalities that are subject to the legislation, and have been known in the past to receive FOIPOP applications for information.

We rely on other organizations to provide statistics, therefore, we caution that we cannot guarantee 100 percent accuracy in any given year. However, it is our view that the information contained in this report is generally an accurate representation of activity under the legislation. I also note that the data does not, with the exception of information about fees collected, reflect the statistics of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Review Office.

This report also marks the third year that we are reporting on total activity under the Government's and individual department's routine access policies that were instituted in the Fall of 2003. The total number of requests under routine access policies continue to increase. More information on the routine access policies of departments, agencies, boards and commissions is available on the respective government public body web sites.

Honourable Cecil P. Clarke
Attorney General and Minister of Justice

Table 1¹: Summary of 2001- 2007 FOIPOP Applications and Disclosure Decisions
(Stats included NS Government; agencies, boards, and commissions; school boards; and universities.)

	# Received	# Completed	Full	Part	Denied	No Record	Section 4, 7(2), and 7(4)	30 Days	30+ Days	60+ Days
2001	1072	788	274	285	70	144	15	501	216	71
2002	1037	910	271	416	56	136	31	535	238	137
2003	727	622	206	290	35	84	7	400	129	93
2004	857	748	237	386	33	83	9	464	192	92
2005	842	742	223	385	27	85	22	431	232	79
2006	874	779	230	373	43	113	20	536	186	57
2007	865	716	175	396	28	117	13	490	177	31
Totals	6,274	5,305	1,616	2,531	292	762	117	3,357	1,370	560

Table 2²: Summary of 2004 - 2007 FOIPOP Application and Disclosure Decisions
(Reflects Table 1 plus the addition of district health authorities; municipalities; and municipal police services.)

	# Received	# Completed	Full	Part	Denied	No Record	Excluded Section 4	7(2) & 7(4)	30 Days	30+ Days	60+ Days
2004	1071	947	359	435	49	87	11	6	599	219	129
2005	1059	937	347	419	42	106	15	8	572	267	98
2006	1111	985	278	507	53	123	14	10	688	218	79
2007	1,072	916	305	429	37	127	4	17	640	201	38

Source: The N.S. Information Access and Privacy Office (formerly the Office of the FOIPOP Coordinator), N.S. Department of Justice.

¹ This table and all subsequent tables (except where otherwise noted), include statistics from school boards and universities, but does not include regional health authorities or hospitals. Also, this table does not include municipalities, which are covered under FOIPOP provisions of Part XX of the *Municipal Government Act*. The statistics do include all government departments, as well as agencies, boards, and commissions, and the NS Community College, known to have received FOIPOP applications.

Applications completed include those applications where decisions have been made. Applications that have been carried forward to 2008, abandoned, withdrawn, or transferred in full are not included.

² The statistics for this table include all public bodies covered under the FOIPOP Act and Part XX of the *Municipal Government Act* (i.e., NS Government departments, agencies, boards, and commissions, school boards, universities, district health authorities, municipalities, and municipal police services). Statistics for district health authorities, municipalities, and municipal police services were captured for the first time in 2004.

Table 3³: 2001-2007 Access Decisions and Response Times by Percentage

	Full	Part	Denied	No Record	Sections 4, 7(2), and 7(4)	0-30 Days	30-60 Days	60+ Days
2001⁴	34.8%	36.2%	8.9%	18.3%	1.9%	63.6%	27.4%	9%
2002	29.8	45.7	6.2	14.9	3.4	58.8 ⁵	26.2	15.1
2003	33.1	46.6	5.6	13.4	1.1	64.4 ⁶	20.6	14.8
2004	37.9	45.9	5.2	9.2	1.8	63.3	23.1	13.6
2005	37	44.7	4.5	11.3	2.5	61	28.5	10.5
2006	28.2	51.5	5.4	12.5	2.4	69.9 ⁷	22.1	8.0
2007	33.2	46.8	4.0	13.9	2.3	69.9⁸	21.9	4.2

Table 4⁹: 2001-2007 N.S. Government FOIPOP Applications By Information Type

	# Received	Personal	General	Personal/General	# Completed	Personal	General	Personal/General
2001	687	119	541	27	497	83	396	18
2002	981	260	631	90	858	232	543	83
2003	678	177	416	85	577	143	370	64
2004	779	141	520	118	674	142	433	99
2005	761	225	480	56	675	190	422	63
2006	777	259	462	56	692	236	409	47
2007	803	297	464	42	692	245	373	37
Totals	5,466	1,478	3,514	474	4,665	1,271	2,946	411

³ 2001 to 2003 percentages reflect Table 1 data, while 2004 to 2007 percentages reflect Table 2 Data.

⁴ Percentage totals more than 100% because of rounding.

⁵ Percentage totals more than 100% because of rounding.

⁶ Percentage totals less than 100% because of rounding.

⁷ Percentage totals more than 100% because of rounding.

⁸ Percentage totals more than 100% because of rounding.

⁹ Table 4 includes information only for those departments on the FOIPOP tracking system.

Table 5¹⁰: 2001-2007 Source of N.S. Government FOIPOP Applications by Percentage

	# Received	Academic	Media	Political Party	Public	Business	Other	Public Interest
2001	1072	0	11.7	22.9	43.9	8.9	5.6	7
2002	1037	0.8	11.2	26.9	48.1	6	4	3
2003	727	0.8	7.6	19.1	46.5	22	3.2	0.8
2004	1071	0.2	3.1	23.9	44	23.5	2.8	2.5
2005	1059	0.7	3.1	16.4	48.2	26.7	2.4	2.5
2006	1111	34	5.2	18.4	21.8	6.8	2.6	11.2
2007	803	0	5.8	13.7	51.8	24.8	3.6	0.7

Table 6¹¹: 2001-2007 FOIPOP Fees Collected

Year	Record of Fees Collected	Fee Type
2001	\$5,584.60	
2002	\$15,931.10	Processing
	\$775.00	Review
2003	\$17,155.56	Processing
	\$1,125.00	Review
2004	\$31,505.75	Processing
	\$1,225.00	Review
2005	\$22,388.17	Processing
	\$1,125.00	Review
2006	\$27,621.03	Processing
	\$1,025.00	Review
2007 ¹²	\$14,225.33	Processing
	\$475.00	Review
Total Fees	\$140,161.54	

¹⁰ 2001 to 2003 requests received reflect Table 1 data, while 2004 to 2007 requests reflect Table 2 Data.

¹¹ 2004 to 2006 data includes all fees collected by NS Government, agencies, boards, and commissions, school boards, universities, district health authorities, municipalities, and municipal police services. 2001 to 2003 data reflects only fees collected by government public bodies.

¹² The processing fee for the first two hours of processing time was eliminated June 1, 2007. The FOIPOP Review fee was eliminated June 1, 2007.

Table 7: 2007 Applications by Government Department or Public Body

Department Name	Total # FOIPOP Applications Received	Total # FOIPOP Applications Completed ¹³
Government Departments		
Aboriginal Affairs	0	0
Acadian Affairs	0	0
African Nova Scotian Affairs	0	0
Agriculture	6	5
Archives & Records Management	0	0
Communications Nova Scotia	1	1
Community Services	180	150
Economic Development	13	9
Education	15	11
Emergency Measures Organization	0	0
Energy	5	0
Environment & Labour (Includes Alcohol and Gaming Authority, Fire Marshal, Occupational Health and Safety)	273	241
Executive Council	6	4
Finance	25	24
Fisheries & Aquaculture	1	1
Health	65	65
Health Promotion and Protection	13	12
Human Rights Commission	1	1
Immigration	10	3
Intergovernmental Affairs	3	3
Justice	50	42
Natural Resources	22	17
Nova Scotia Business Inc.	9	8
Nova Scotia Insurance Review Board	0	0

¹³ Applications completed include those applications where decisions have been made. Applications that have been carried forward to 2008, abandoned, withdrawn, or transferred in full are not included.

Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner	2	2
Premier's Office	13	8
Public Service Commission	9	8
Public Prosecution Service	10	11
Securities Commission	0	0
Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations	43	31
Sport & Recreation Commission	0	0
Tourism, Culture and Heritage	6	6
Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal ¹⁴	14	12
Treasury & Policy Board	7	7
Utility & Review Board	2	2
Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal	0	0
Other Government Public Bodies		
Atlantic Lottery Corporation	3	3
Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission	1	0
InNOVACorp	1	1
Nova Scotia Community College	1	0
Nova Scotia Film Development Corporation	1	1
Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation	1	1
Nova Scotia Legal Aid	1	1
Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation	1	0
Nova Scotia Pension Agency	2	2
Nova Scotia Public Service LTD Plan	1	0
Sydney Tar Ponds	3	1
Trade Centre Ltd.	1	1
Waterfront Development	0	0
Workers' Compensation Board	7	4

¹⁴ Until October 2007, this department was called the Department of Transportation & Public Works

University and School Boards		
Acadia University	5	5
Annapolis Valley Regional School Board	0	0
Atlantic School of Theology	0	0
Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board	0	0
Chignecto-Central Regional School Board	2	1
Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial	0	0
Dalhousie University	8	7
Halifax Regional School Board	6	6
Mount Saint Vincent University	6	6
Nova Scotia Agricultural College	1	1
Nova Scotia College of Art & Design	1	1
Saint Mary's University	0	0
South Shore Regional School Board	0	0
St. Francis Xavier University	0	0
Strait Regional School Board	0	0
Tri-County School Board	1	0
Universite Sainte-Anne	2	2
Cape Breton University	4	3
University of King's College	2	2
District Health Authorities		
Annapolis Valley District Health Authority	0	0
Cape Breton District Health Authority	1	1
Capital District Health Authority	16	11
Colchester East Hants Health Authority	0	0
Cumberland Health Authority	3	1
Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority	2	2
IWK Health Centre	4	4
Pictou County District Health Authority	0	0
South Shore District Health Authority	0	0
South West Health	4	4

Municipal (Regional/Town/Rural)		
Cape Breton Regional Municipality	2	2
Halifax Regional Municipality	43	33
Municipality of the County of Annapolis	2	2
Municipality of the County of Antigonish	0	0
Municipality of the District of Argyle	1	0
Municipality of the District of Barrington	3	3
Municipality of the District of Chester	0	0
Municipality of the County of Inverness	0	0
Municipality of the County of Kings	1	1
Municipality of the County of Pictou	1	1
Municipality of the County of Richmond	0	0
Municipality of the County of Victoria	0	0
Municipality of the District of Clare	0	0
Municipality of the District of Colchester	0	0
Municipality of the District of Cumberland	0	0
Municipality of the District of Digby	1	1
Municipality of the District of Guysborough	0	0
Municipality of the District of Hants East	0	0
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg	2	2
Municipality of the District of Shelburne	1	0
Municipality of the District of St. Mary's	0	0
Municipality of the District of Hants West	2	2
Municipality of the District of Yarmouth	2	1
Region of Queens Municipality	0	0
Town of Amherst	1	1
Town of Annapolis Royal	0	0
Town of Antigonish	0	0
Town of Berwick	0	0
Town of Bridgetown	0	0
Town of Bridgewater	0	0
Town of Canso	0	0

Town of Clark's Harbour	0	0
Town of Digby	0	0
Town of Hantsport	0	0
Town of Kentville	1	1
Town of Lockeport	0	0
Town of Lunenburg	0	0
Town of Mahone Bay	0	0
Town of Middleton	0	0
Town of Mulgrave	0	0
Town of New Glasgow	1	1
Town of Oxford	0	0
Town of Parrsboro	1	1
Town of Pictou	0	0
Town of Port Hawkesbury	0	0
Town of Shelburne	1	0
Town of Springhill	0	0
Town of Stellarton	0	0
Town of Stewiacke	0	0
Town of Trenton	11	11
Town of Truro	1	0
Town of Westville*	NR	NR
Town of Windsor	0	0
Town of Wolfville	0	0
Town of Yarmouth	0	0

Municipal (Police Services)		
Amherst Police	0	0
Annapolis Royal Police	0	0
Bridgewater Police	0	0
Cape Breton Regional Police*	NR	NR
Halifax Regional Police	88	88
Kentville Police	1	0
New Glasgow	1	1
Springhill Police	0	0
Stellarton Police	1	1
Trenton Police*	NR	NR
Truro Police	7	7
Westville Police*	NR	NR
	1072	916

* NR - No Response to requests for 2007 Statistics

Table 8 2006 Applications by Government Department or Public Body

Department Name	Total # FOIPOP Applications Received	Total # FOIPOP Applications Completed ¹⁵
Government Departments		
Aboriginal Affairs	0	0
Acadian Affairs	0	0
Agriculture & Fisheries	15	15
Archives & Records Management	0	0
Communications Nova Scotia	3	2
Community Services	153	135
Department of Energy	0	0
Economic Development	19	16
Education	13	13
Emergency Measures Organization	0	0
Environment & Labour (Includes Alcohol and Gaming Authority, Fire Marshal, Occupational Health and Safety)	301	280
Executive Council	5	3
Finance	8	6
Health	78	70
Human Rights Commission	8	6
Immigration	4	3
Intergovernmental Affairs	4	4
Justice	59	47
Natural Resources	9	8
Nova Scotia Business Inc.	6	6
Nova Scotia Insurance Review Board	0	0
Office of Health Promotion	1	1
Police Commission	0	0
Premier's Office	7	5

¹⁵ Applications completed include those applications where decisions have been made. Applications that have been carried forward to 2007, abandoned, withdrawn, or transferred in full are not included.

Public Service Commission	8	7
Public Prosecution Service	17	15
Securities Commission	0	0
Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations	16	14
Sport & Recreation Commission	0	0
Tourism, Culture and Heritage	16	11
Transportation & Public Works	17	16
Treasury & Policy Board	10	9
Utility & Review Board	0	0
Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal	0	0
Other Government Public Bodies		
Children's Aid Society of Shelburne County	1	1
Family and Children's Services of Kings County	13	13
Halifax-Dartmouth Bridge Commission	1	1
InNOVACorp	0	0
Nova Scotia Board of Examiners in Psychology	1	1
Nova Scotia Community College	0	0
Nova Scotia Film Development Corporation	2	2
Nova Scotia Gaming Corporation	2	2
Nova Scotia Legal Aid	1	1
Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation	9	9
Nova Scotia Public Service LTD Plan	1	1
Trade Centre Ltd.	4	4
Waterfront Development	0	0
Workers' Compensation Board	9	6

University and School Boards		
Acadia University	4	3
Annapolis Valley Regional School Board	1	1
Atlantic School of Theology	1	1
Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board	0	0
Chignecto-Central Regional School Board	2	2
Conseil Scolaire Acadien Provincial	0	0
Dalhousie University	16	14
Halifax Regional School Board	6	4
Mount Saint Vincent University	9	9
Nova Scotia Agricultural College	2	2
Nova Scotia College of Art & Design	0	0
Saint Mary's University	2	2
South Shore Regional School Board	1	1
St. Francis Xavier University	3	3
Strait Regional School Board	2	1
Tri-County School Board	1	0
Universite Sainte-Anne	1	1
Cape Breton University	1	1
University of King's College	1	1
District Health Authorities		
Annapolis Valley District Health Authority	0	0
Cape Breton District Health Authority	3	3
Capital District Health Authority	17	13
Colchester East Hants Health Authority	0	0
Cumberland Health Authority	0	0
Guysborough Antigonish Strait Health Authority	2	2
IWK Health Centre	5	5
Pictou County District Health Authority	1	1
South Shore District Health Authority	0	0
South West Health	2	2

Municipal (Regional/Town/Rural)		
Cape Breton Regional Municipality	1	1
Halifax Regional Municipality	34	29
Municipality of the County of Annapolis	2	2
Municipality of the County of Antigonish	0	0
Municipality of the District of Argyle	0	0
Municipality of the District of Barrington	1	1
Municipality of the District of Chester	1	1
Municipality of the County of Inverness	0	0
Municipality of the County of Kings	1	1
Municipality of the County of Pictou	0	0
Municipality of the County of Richmond	0	0
Municipality of the County of Victoria	0	0
Municipality of the District of Clare	0	0
Municipality of the District of Colchester	0	0
Municipality of the District of Cumberland	0	0
Municipality of the District of Digby	1	1
Municipality of the District of Guysborough	2	2
Municipality of the District of Hants East	1	1
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg	1	1
Municipality of the District of Shelburne	1	1
Municipality of the District of St. Mary's	0	0
Municipality of the District of Hants West	1	1
Municipality of the District of Yarmouth	0	0
Region of Queens Municipality	0	0
Town of Amherst	1	1
Town of Annapolis Royal	0	0
Town of Antigonish	0	0
Town of Berwick	0	0
Town of Bridgetown	0	0
Town of Bridgewater	0	0
Town of Canso	0	0

Town of Clark's Harbour	0	0
Town of Digby	0	0
Town of Hantsport	0	0
Town of Kentville	0	0
Town of Lockeport	0	0
Town of Lunenburg	0	0
Town of Mahone Bay	0	0
Town of Middleton	0	0
Town of Mulgrave	0	0
Town of New Glasgow	1	0
Town of Oxford	0	0
Town of Parrsboro	1	1
Town of Pictou	0	0
Town of Port Hawkesbury	0	0
Town of Shelburne	0	0
Town of Springhill	1	1
Town of Stellarton	0	0
Town of Stewiacke	0	0
Town of Trenton	2	2
Town of Truro	0	0
Town of Westville	0	0
Town of Windsor	0	0
Town of Wolfville	0	0
Town of Yarmouth	0	0

Municipal (Police Services)		
Amherst Police	0	0
Annapolis Royal Police	0	0
Bridgewater Police	0	0
Cape Breton Regional Police	85	65
Halifax Regional Police	64	64
Kentville Police	0	0
New Glasgow	1	1
Springhill Police	0	0
Stellarton Police	0	0
Trenton Police	1	1
Truro Police	3	2
Westville Police	0	0
Total	1111	985

Table 9 Summary of 2003-2007 Routine Access Requests¹⁶

	# Received	# Completed	Full	Part	Denied	Policy Not Applicable	No Record	Withdrawn or Transferred	30 Days	30+ Days	60+ Days
2003	37	30	22	5	1	2	0	0	28	1	1
2004	3,419	3,393	757	69	1	11	2,555	0	3,206	184	3
2005	4,220	4,220	953	23	1	11	3,232	0	3,826	219	175
2006	4,037	3,658	827	10	5	27	2,787	2	3,600	57	1
2007	4,617	4,829 ¹⁷	730	112	1	6	3,978	182	4,764	15	38
Total	16,330	16,130	3,289	219	9	57	12,552	184	15,424	476	218

¹⁶The majority of routine access requests are received and processed by the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour.

¹⁷Number completed include requests carried forward from 2006.