

**THE NOVA SCOTIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT**

A REQUEST FOR REVIEW of a decision of Nova Scotia Business Inc. to deny access to parts of a record related to a Provincial trade mission to New York and Boston.

REVIEW OFFICER: Darce Fardy

REPORT DATE: November 29th, 2002

ISSUE: Whether the severed portions of an itinerary contain “advice”; “personal information”; information the disclosure of which could harm the economic interests of the Province; and information the disclosure of which could harm the interests of third parties.

In a Request for Review under the **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act** (the **Act**), received September 9th, 2002, the Applicant asked that I review the decision of Nova Scotia Business Inc. (NSBI) to sever portions of an itinerary of a Provincial trade mission.

The Applicant asked for the itinerary and other documentation concerning the participation of the Minister of Economic Development in the trade mission to New York and Boston from December 4 to 7, 2001. The itinerary was the only documentation.

NSBI provided the Applicant with much of the itinerary after severing portions under exemptions found in Sections 14(1), 17(1), 20(1) and 21(1). The reasons provided for

severing information from the itinerary are the same as those provided in an earlier Application. That Application resulted in a Review by this Office. Rather than repeat the arguments of NSBI and the views of the Review Officer in this Report, I refer readers to my recent Report, FI-02-84.

Recommendation:

Attached to the copy of this Report being provided to NSBI, is a copy of the itinerary with the severances I accept highlighted. I recommend that those parts of the record for which NSBI has claimed an exemption, but which I have not highlighted, be disclosed.

S.40(1) requires NSBI to make a decision on these recommendations within thirty days of receiving them and to notify the Applicant and the Review Office, in writing, of this decision.

Dated at Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 29th, 2002.

Darce Fardy, Review Officer