

June 30/2023

Sandra Barnes Clerk of the House of Assembly East Block, Confederation Building P.O. Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1B 4J6 sbarnes@gov.nl.ca

Dear Ms. Barnes:

I wish to advise you that the 2023-26 Activity Plan for the Commissioner of Lobbyists cannot be tabled in the House of Assembly by June 30, 2023. The Commissioner of Lobbyists is an entity of one and is currently vacant. As such, an appointed Commissioner is not available to submit the Activity Plan as required by section 7 of the **Transparency and Accountability Act**. The Department of Justice and Public Safety is working with the Independent Appointments Commission to appoint a Commissioner of Lobbyists and has been seeking suitable candidates since March 29, 2023 for consideration through the merit-based process. The 2023-26 Activity Plan will be tabled at the earliest possible opportunity once the new Commissioner is in place.

Sincerely,

JOHN HOGAN, K.C.

Minister of Justice and Public Safety Attorney General

CC: Brad Sullivan, Director of Evaluation and Accountability, Treasury Board Secretariat