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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavut liuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

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Minister of Education
Ministaat Ilinniaqtuliqiyitkut
Ministre de l'Éducation

January 14/16.
November 4, 2015

Elaine Keenan Bengts
Information and Privacy Commissioner
P.O. Box 262
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2N2

To Elaine Keenan Bengts:

RE: Privacy Breach Complaint – [REDACTED] – File# 15-139-5

Thank you for your correspondence dated September 25, 2015 regarding your recommendations in relation to the privacy breach investigation. The Department of Education has reviewed your recommendation to work with the district education authorities (DEAs) to establish strong privacy policies. Please note that there are stipulations in the *Education Act Regulations* to address privacy; Section 8(4) of the DEA Administration Regulations states that "A district education authority or a committee of a district education authority shall not discuss, except at a meeting that is closed to the public, any matter involving personal information related to any individual."

Additionally, my officials are in agreement with your recommendations and the Coalition of Nunavut District Education Authorities (CNDEA) has recently surveyed the DEAs on what policies each DEA has developed to date and the department hopes to receive a copy of the results to better aid DEAs on solid policy development.

The department is also working on consistent messaging for educators and school staff regarding access and privacy as it applies to their specific needs and circumstances. The department of education is dedicated to upholding the privacy of all our stakeholders and of late has been focused on prevention of such breaches through training and messaging.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

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Hon. Paul Quassa
Minister of Education
Government of Nunavut

CC: Kathy Okpik, Deputy Minister of Education
Napatsi Folger, Director, Policy and Planning, Department of Education
Mary Ann de Guzman, Manager, ATIPP