

January 10, 2024

Received LCO
January 11, 2024

Honourable Kelly Regan, MLA
Chair of the Standing Committee of Public Accounts
c/o Legislative Committee Offices

Dear MLA Regan:

RE: Standing Committee on Public Accounts

I am writing in reply to the letter dated December 21, 2023, further to the Department's attendance at the Committee on December 13, 2023. The Committee requested information on three items.

1. Do we have an assessment of whether the additional tax revenue has come from more people or higher incomes? If we can tell that, what is the percentage? (see page 14 of transcript)
Please see page 2 of this letter for this information.
2. What was the total cost of that contract (emergency funding for air circulation in classrooms), who received it, how many schools were upgraded and did the contract go through the proper bidding process? (see page 21 of transcript)
Please see the attached 2 schedules.
3. Can you confirm or deny if the revenue increases from liquor and gaming have led or correspond to increases in preventive programming around gambling and addiction? Is there money being spent to counter the damaging effect.
Please see page 2 of this letter for this information.

Yours truly,



Kelliann Dean
Deputy Minister

c. Kim Langille, Clerk, Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Question 1 – Sources of Additional Personal Income Tax (PIT) Revenue

Based on the latest Public Accounts and the 1-year period, from 2021-22 to 2022-23, the change in PIT revenue was attributable to these factors:

- an increase in the number of tax filers, which accounted for 48% of the revenue increase,
- average income growth accounted for 22%, and
- yield rate growth accounted for 30% of the revenue growth.

For the period from 2018-19 to 2022-23, the change in PIT revenue was attributable to these factors:

- an increase in number of tax filers, which accounted for 24%,
- average income growth accounted for 47%, and
- yield rate growth accounted for 29% of the revenue growth.

Note: for 2022-23 the number of tax filers, average income and yield rate are estimates as of Public Accounts 2022-23 and will change with the release of new information and could alter the relative contributions of the factors.

Question 3 – Revenue for NSGC and NSLC, and spending on Mental Health and Addictions

All OAMH expenditures directly related to supporting gambling and alcohol addictions totalled \$12.6 million in 2022-23, a 37% increase over the prior year (\$9.2 million).

Schedule A: Question 2 – Information on funding related to ventilation in schools

	AVRCE	CBVRCE	CCRCE	CSAP	HRCE	SSRCE	SRCE	TCRCE	Bulk Purchase*	Total
Total Cost Spent to Aug 31, 2023	\$ 2,355,117	\$ 690,468	\$ 2,044,637	\$ 1,234,836	\$ 6,970,571	\$ 2,161,422	\$ 1,040,884	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 19,997,935
Forecasted Spend Sept 1-Mar 31,2024	2,903,000	879,200	114,400	1,009,600	746,000	400,000	874,600	300,000	-	7,226,800
	\$ 5,258,117	\$ 1,569,668	\$ 2,159,037	\$ 2,244,436	\$ 7,716,571	\$ 2,561,422	\$ 1,915,484	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 27,224,735
# of schools	9	38	11	20	38	6	11	22		155
# of contractors used	12	3	12	15	10	19	3	3		77
Procurement policy followed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		

*Purchase of 1,600 air purifiers by NSCSB (Nova Scotia Common Services Bureau) and distributed to the schools

Schedule A (Continued)

List of Contractors Used:

AVRCE

Aimer Roofing
The Master Group
Armstrong Mechanical
Spicer Electric
Buildon Construction
Free-Barr Interiors
G.C. Baxters Plumbing & Heating
Howard Little Excavating
Mid Valley Construction
Acadia Roofing & Contracting
PCL Construction
Roscoe Construction

CBVRCE

Ainsworth Inc.
Brilun Construction Ltd.
Maritect

CCRCE

Gil-Son Construction Ltd.
Advance Energy Maintenance
Controls and Equipment Ltd.
Memco
Advance Energy Maintenance
TML Construction
Fosco Roofing
BMR Structural Engineering
Metro Roofing
Flagship Construction
Ridgemark
DUMAC Energy Ltd.

CSAP

A J Murphy Plumbing Heating
Acadia Roofing & Contracting Ltd.
Advanced Eneergy Management
Ainsworth Inc.
APM Constructions Services
A-Tech Roofing Ltd.
Bluden Construction Ltd.
Carvery's Construction Ltd.
Harvey Architecture Ltd.
J.T. Mechanical
Joneljim Concrete Construction
MacLean Construction Ltd.
Michael Hamilton Construction
Seagate Construction Inc.
Shep-Com Construction Ltd.

HRCE

Gil-Son Construction Ltd.
Atlantica Mechanical Contracting
Alvin Company Ltd.
Bird Mechanical Ltd.
Black and MacDonald Ltd.
White Rock Construction Ltd.
Schooner General Contracting Ltd.
Grey Top Commercial Construction Inc.
Avondale Construction Ltd.
Ridgeback Construction

SSRCE

Dumac Energy Ltd
Gordon Ratcliffe Lanscaping
Jost Architects Ltd
Bridgewater Glass Ltd.
Troy Life & Fire Safety
CFMS Atlantic Ltd.
South Shore HVAC Ltd
Tri-Tech Pinnacle Group
C.A. Bolivar Construction
Hallridge Lighting Ltd.
Maynard Reece Engineered
Division 26 East Inc.
Limitless Asphalt Sealing
E.C. Armitage Hardware Co
Controls & Equipment Ltd
Eastern Fence Erectors Ltd
Kone Inc.
Acadia Roofing & Contract Ltd.
Gil-son Construction Ltd

SRCE

McCarthy's Roofing Ltd.
Brilun Construction Ltd.
Controls and Equipment Ltd.

TCRCE

Kerr Controls
Controls and Equipment Ltd.
Diamond Mechanical