



Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal

Annual Activity
Report 2025-2026

For more information:
Website: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/gs/>
Department of Government Services
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
Telephone: 709.729.4834 Fax: 709.729.4754
E-mail: GSInfo@gov.nl.ca

REFERENCE PERIOD

This report covers the period of April 1, 2025, through to March 31, 2026.

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Chairperson's Message

As Chairperson of the Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal, I am pleased to submit the annual Activity Report for 2025-2026.

This report is prepared in compliance with the **Transparency and Accountability Act**, which requires the tribunal to prepare a yearly report as a Category 3 Provincial Government entity. The tribunal is accountable for the preparation of this report and for the achievement of its objectives.

The Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal's objective is to process all appeals in accordance with the requirements of the **Buildings Accessibility Act** and its associated regulations.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Duffy

Chairperson

Overview

The Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal is an independent, quasi-judicial body that has the responsibility of hearing and adjudicating appeals made under Section 23 of the **Buildings Accessibility Act**. The tribunal, after hearing an appeal, may confirm, revoke or vary the action taken by the Department of Government Services' Director of Engineering and Inspection Services with respect to administration of the legislation.

The tribunal is appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council under the authority of Section 20 of the **Buildings Accessibility Act**. It is comprised of five members including a Chairperson, a Vice- Chairperson and three persons, one of whom is a representative of persons with disabilities.

The following is a list of active members serving on the tribunal as of March 31, 2026:

Member	Representation
Michael Duffy	Chairperson
Debbie Ryan	Vice-Chairperson
Mary O'Brien	Member
Kirk Saunders	Member
George Sweeney	Member

Vision

The Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal works to ensure the fair and equitable application of its mandate as outlined in the **Buildings Accessibility Act**.

Mandate

The mandate of the Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal is to hear and adjudicate appeals of notices, decisions, directions or orders confirmed or varied by the Director of Engineering and Inspection Services with respect to building accessibility.

Decisions of the tribunal are based on a review of written and oral submissions and documents and may be appealed to the courts.

The tribunal only meets when an appeal has been filed. In the 2025-2026 reporting period, two appeals were filed.

Highlights and Partnerships

The tribunal engages with various groups as deemed pertinent. Actions and recommendations of the tribunal benefit the general public, particularly those with disabilities and those representing the interests of persons with disabilities.

Report on Performance

This report outlines the Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal's activities from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026, including the objectives achieved as outlined in the 2023-2026 Activity Plan.

Objective:

By March 31, 2024, 2025 and 2026, the tribunal will have processed all appeals it has received in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

Indicators:

- Pursuant to subsection 23(2) of the Act, the number of appeal hearings commenced not later than 30 days after receipt of written notice of appeal.
- Pursuant to subsection 23(2) of the Act, the number of appeal decisions provided to appellant in writing within 45 days of hearing appeal.

Results Achieved:

During the 2025–2026 reporting period, the tribunal received two appeals.

- Pursuant to Subsection 23(2) of the Act, two appeal hearings commenced within 30 days of receipt of the written notice of appeal, in compliance with the prescribed service standard.
- Pursuant to Subsection 23(2) of the Act, two written appeal decisions were provided to appellants within 45 days of the hearing, in compliance with the prescribed service standard.

Written decisions of the tribunal can be found online at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/gs/licences/building/>.

Opportunities and Challenges

The Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal did not experience any challenges in fulfilling its mandate in 2025-2026.

The Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal will strive to consider gender-based analysis+ factors in carrying out its duties. The tribunal recognizes that gender-based analysis+ considers a variety of factors and how they interact with one another. These factors include but are not limited to sex, gender, language, race, ethnicity, culture, and disability.

Financial Statements

The Buildings Accessibility Appeal Tribunal is not required to submit audited financial statements.

