

Farm Industry Review Board Activity Plan

**Fiscal Years
2026–2029**



Message from the Chairperson

Honourable Pleaman Forsey
Minister of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

On behalf of the Farm Industry Review Board (Board), I am pleased to present the Board's three-year activity plan for fiscal years 2026–2027, 2027–2028 and 2028–2029. The strategic priorities of the Provincial Government and the Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands (FAL) have been considered in the preparation of this plan.

The Board carries out two distinct regulatory and adjudicative functions established under provincial legislation. Under the **Natural Products Marketing Act** (NPMA), the Board serves as a supervisory board with authority to oversee the operations of provincial commodity boards. Under the **Farm Practices Protection Act** (FPPA), the Board adjudicates disputes by providing farmers who operate in accordance with normal farm practices with protection from nuisance complaints.

Reporting directly to the Minister of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands, the Board consists of appointed members with diverse backgrounds and experience and is supported by a full-time manager located in Corner Brook. Under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**, the Board is defined as a category three government entity and is required to submit this three-year activity plan to the Minister of FAL (Minister).

Over the coming three years, the Board will focus on strengthening its oversight of provincial commodity boards and ensuring fair, transparent and timely resolution of appeals and complaints. This includes implementing a more structured and consistent approach to oversight and engagement with commodity boards.

This activity plan reflects the Board's commitment to focused, transparent and accountable oversight of regulated agricultural marketing systems in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Sincerely,



Tammy Pike Farrell
Chairperson

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1. Overview

The Board was established in 2005 following proclamation of the **Natural Products Marketing Act** (NPMA). In addition to the creation of the Board, the **Act** allowed for the creation of three commodity boards in the province; the Dairy Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Chicken Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Egg Farmers of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Under the NPMA, the Board consists of five to seven members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, one of whom is nominated by the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Agriculture (NLFA).

The Board reports directly to the Minister. Members are appointed for three-year terms and are eligible for reappointment. The Board is supported by one permanent employee, the Board Manager. All other members are volunteers and are reimbursed for expenses related to meetings and board duties.

Currently, the Board consists of the following members:

Name	Title	Appointment Date	Expiry Date	Area
Pike Farrell, Tammy	Chairperson	2026/02/26	2029/02/26	East
Kennedy, Sarah	Vice-Chairperson	2026/02/26	2029/02/26	West
Bell, Sharon	Member	2024/07/26	2027/07/26	East
Wicks, Gerry	Member	2024/11/12	2027/11/12	East
Chatman, Krista	NLFA Member	2026/02/26	2029/02/26	East

The Board's operational budget is included in FAL's annual budget. The budget for the first year of the plan (2026-2029) is \$240,200 for the payment of salaries and operating expenses related to the Board.

Contact Information:

This plan is available in alternate formats. For more information, please contact the Board at:

Farm Industry Review Board

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2. Mandate

The Board is a regulatory and adjudicative body with two primary responsibilities: general supervision of provincial agricultural commodity boards, and hearing complaints from those aggrieved by board decisions or farm practices.

The mandate of the Board is set out in two statutes:

1. Natural Products Marketing Act (NPMA)

<https://www.assembly.nl.ca/legislation/sr/statutes/n02.htm>

The Board is responsible for general supervision of the operations of commodity boards created under this **Act**; hearing appeals from any person aggrieved by or dissatisfied with orders, decisions, or determinations of the commodity boards; and acting as a signatory to Federal-Provincial agreements for supply-managed commodities.

2. Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act (FPPA)

<https://www.assembly.nl.ca/legislation/sr/statutes/f04-1.htm>

The Board is responsible for hearing complaints from persons aggrieved by odour, noise, dust, or other disturbances arising from agricultural operations and may also study and report generally on farm practices.

3. Vision

The vision of the Board is of a regulated but fluid marketing system which supports the growth and operations of a harmonious, sustainable farming environment through good governance, transparency and stakeholder engagement.

4. Primary Stakeholders

Stakeholder governance requires organizations to identify, engage with, and understand stakeholder perspectives on key issues, and reflect on how they should be addressed in decision-making. The Board identifies its primary stakeholders as those individuals, groups or organizations who are the principal users and/or beneficiaries of the Board's lines of business, and include the following:

- Commodity boards and their members;
- Other producing and processing farming groups;
- Farmers and producers;
- Members of the public aggrieved by odour, noise, dust, or other disturbances arising

from agricultural operations;

- Members of the public aggrieved by or dissatisfied with an order, decision, or determination of a commodity board;
- Members of the public interested in obtaining information about the farming industry; and
- Members of the public who rely on products managed by the commodity boards under the Board's purview.

5. Issues

As the focus of the Board will remain the same for the entire planning period, the Board will report on the same objectives in all three years.

Issue 1: Appeals and Complaint Resolution

The Board provides an independent and accessible forum for the fair and timely resolution of appeals related to commodity board decisions and nuisance complaints related to farm practices.

Objective: By March 31 of each year, the Board will have adjudicated appeals related to commodity board decisions and nuisance complaints submitted by individuals related to on-farm practices.

Issue 2: Regulatory Oversight and Engagement with Commodity Boards

The Board is legally responsible for supervising provincial commodity boards and ensuring that regulated marketing systems comply with legislative requirements. It reinforces this oversight through systematic, consistent monitoring, engagement, and evaluation.

Objective: By March 31 of each year, the Board will have overseen the provincial commodity boards and ensured legal compliance through regular monitoring, engagement and review.