Livestock Owners Compensation Board

Activity Plan

April 1, 2026 – March 31, 2029

Newfoundland & Labrador

Chairperson’s Message

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

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to submit the 2026–2029 Activity Plan for the Newfoundland and Labrador Livestock Owners Compensation Board (the LOCB). As a category three entity under the **Transparency and Accountability Act**, this plan meets the requirements and covers the period from April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2029.

The LOCB is committed to supporting livestock producers of the province by administering a livestock insurance program that compensates producers for livestock losses caused by predators.

The strategic directions of Government related to the Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands (FAL) have been considered in the preparation of this plan, as well as Government’s commitment to increasing the province’s food self-sufficiency.

My signature below is on behalf of the LOCB and is indicative of its accountability for the preparation of this plan and achievement of its annual objective.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Gill
Chairperson

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Overview

Livestock Insurance is a provincial program designed to provide insurance to compensate Newfoundland and Labrador producers for the death or injury of sheep, goats, dairy cattle or beef cattle caused by dogs or other predators. Producers, who register their animals for insurance prior to April 1 of each year and who pay the insurance premiums, are covered until March 31 of the subsequent year in the event any of their animals are killed or severely injured by a predator. Producers who enroll in the program are paid indemnities for livestock lost to predatory animal attack, the indemnity payments are made with funds coming from the Livestock Insurance Fund that is funded from, made up of premiums received from producers.

Subsection 3(2) of the **Livestock Insurance Act** (the Act) provides for the membership of the LOCB, which shall consist of not less than three and not more than five members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. Appointments are made using a merit-based process; however, gender balance is considered during the appointment process and efforts are made to ensure the LOCB is representative of the population it serves. The LOCB presently consists of the following members:

- Janice Gill – Chairperson, Director of Agriculture Business Development Division, FAL
- James Dawson – Vice-Chairperson, Provincial Representative
- Afton Lambert – Provincial Representative
- Melvin J. Rideout – Producer Representative
- Nathan Dennis – Producer Representative

One Program Coordinator, who administers the Livestock Insurance Program, is an employee of FAL. Seven Agriculture Development Officers across the province, also employed by FAL, provide inspection services when necessary and are also responsible for verifying claims for livestock loss.

The LOCB operates under the umbrella of FAL with headquarters in Corner Brook and an annual budget of approximately $11,700. Detailed revenue and expenditure information will be presented in annual performance reports. The annual financial statements of the LOCB are audited by the Office of the Auditor General of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Contact Information:

For more information, or to request a copy of this plan in an alternate format, please contact the LOCB at:

Livestock Owners Compensation Board
P.O. Box 2006
192 Wheeler’s Road
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
Tel: 709-637-2077
Email: jennifereustace@gov.nl.ca
Web: www.gov.nl.ca/fal/programs-and-funding/programs/animals/livestock/insurance/

Mandate

The mandate of the LOCB is to establish and carry out a Livestock Insurance Program under the direction, supervision and control of the Minister of FAL. The LOCB shall:

- Administer plans of livestock insurance established under the Act or the Regulations;
- Fix by order and publish in the Gazette the prescribed amount in respect of each class of livestock that may be paid out of the fund for losses caused by dogs or predators;
- Conduct surveys and research programs relating to insurance and obtain statistics for the purposes of the LOCB;
- Evaluate and determine livestock losses and pay claims under a plan;
- Enter into agreements with or retain persons for the soliciting and receiving of applications for instance, the collecting of premiums and the adjusting of claims under plans for and on behalf of the LOCB, and the doing of other things on its behalf that the LOCB considers necessary;
- Require an applicant for livestock insurance or an insured person to provide the information, statements and reports that the LOCB may require;
- Exercise the powers and perform the duties that are conferred or imposed upon it under the Act or another Act;
- Perform the other functions and discharge the other duties that are assigned to it by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council; and
- Make the orders and directions that are necessary to enforce the observance of the Act, the Regulations or a plan.

For more information on the LOCB’s legislated mandate, please refer to the Act located at https://www.assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/statutes/l23.htm.

Vision

Work through the Livestock Insurance Program contributes to the vision of the Department of Forestry, Agriculture and Lands - To build a resilient and self-sufficient agriculture sector that increases local food production, supports new and existing farmers, and strengthens connections between producers and local markets—ensuring more affordable, locally grown food is available to Newfoundlanders and Labradorians year-round.

Primary Clients

The primary clients of the LOCB are producers/owners of sheep, beef, dairy and/or goats in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Issue

This section of the plan outlines the key priority of the LOCB for the period April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2029. The objective and associated indicators identified for the priority area will be reported on in relevant annual reports. As the focus of the LOCB remains the same for the entire plan, the LOCB will report on the same objective and indicators in all three years.

Issue: Management and Administration of the Livestock Insurance Program

The primary issue of the LOCB is to deliver the livestock insurance plan to the livestock producers of Newfoundland and Labrador who choose to participate and to monitor the sustainability of the insurance fund which accumulates premiums and pays indemnities. The LOCB is committed to supporting the sustainability of the industry. Providing insurance against predator attacks aids producers in their ability to withstand such losses as well as providing stability to enable increased production.

Objective: By March 31 of each year, the Livestock Owners Compensation Board will have continued to offer an insurance plan to producers and performed ongoing monitoring and assessment of the program.