

March 17, 2011

Honourable Harry Harding  
Minister of Government Services  
Second Floor, West Block  
Confederation Building  
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister Harding:

**Re: 2011-13 Activity Plan**  
**Public Accountants Licensing Board**

In compliance with the *Transparency and Accountability Act*, I am pleased to provide you with the 2011-13 Activity Plan for the Public Accountants Licensing Board.

Yours truly,



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Dr. Alex Faseruk  
Chairperson  
Public Accountants Licensing Board



## Public Accountants Licensing Board

2011-13 Activity Plan

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

**ONLINE**

Website: [www.gs.gov.nl.ca](http://www.gs.gov.nl.ca)

**PAPER**

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**REFERENCE PERIOD**

This activity plan covers the three year period January 1, 2011  
through December 31, 2013.

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## Chair's Message

As Chair of the Public Accountants Licensing Board, I am pleased to submit this Activity Plan for the board for the period of 2011-2013. This plan is prepared in compliance with the *Transparency and Accountability Act* pursuant to which the board has been categorized as a Category 3 government entity and which requires the board to prepare a performance-based activity plan. The board is accountable for the preparation of this plan and for the achievement of its objectives.

The board is self-funding through annual fees charged for the issuance and renewal of public accountancy licenses. The board sets the licensing fee and pays remuneration and expenses that are consistent with government guidelines. The board continually enjoys a surplus which it invests in interest-bearing assets. The board is audited annually by the office of the Auditor General of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. As per the *Public Accountancy Act*, the board reports annually to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council on the status of the board's fund and forwards the report to the Comptroller General for incorporation into government's consolidated statements. In 2007, the board endowed the Public Accountants Licensing Board Scholarship in the amount of \$25,000 at Memorial University of Newfoundland to promote excellence in public accountancy within our province. The board voted to increase the endowment by an additional \$5,000 at the January 2011 Statutory Meeting of the board.

The board is comprised of members appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council from the three accounting designations: chartered accountants; certified general accountants; and certified management accountants, as well as members from the general public. The board enjoys very strong and cordial working relationships with the three designated accounting bodies and currently has no complaints outstanding against any licensees.

In December 2009, the House of Assembly passed the *Public Accountants Act* (assented December 22, 2009), which will supersede the *Public Accountancy Act*, to govern public accountants. When the House of Assembly passes amendments to the *Act*, the amended *Act* will be proclaimed bringing the Public Accountants Licensing Board in line with the White Paper on Self Regulatory Occupations. The board will be reconstituted at that time. The Board plays no direct role in the strategic direction of the Department of Government Services.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Alex Faseruk  
Chair

## **Overview**

Under the terms of the *Public Accountancy Act*, the board at full capacity consists of 12 members with three members from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador (ICANL), three members from the Certified General Accountants Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (CGAANL), three members from Certified Management Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador (CMANL) and three members representing the public. The members of the board hold office at pleasure. At the current time the board consists of 11 members who are: Fred Cole C.A., Eric Coombs F.C.A. and Donna Rideout C.A. from ICAN; Calvin Dawe CGA, Madonna Henderson FCGA and Bruce Smith FCGA from the CGAANL; and, John Kattenbusch FCMA and John King FCMA from the SMANL. The three members representing the public are Dr. Alex Faseruk, Chair, Shelley Senior, LLB, Secretary and Jim Furey, Treasurer. Currently, one vacancy exists from the CMANL following a resignation from the Board in 2006. These members meet twice a year in January and July as required by statute but may meet more often if required.

## **Mandate**

The Board is established under Section 3 of the *Public Accountancy Act*. The powers of the board include: (a) the granting or refusal of licenses under the *Act*; (b) the keeping and publishing of the Roll of Public Accountants in Newfoundland and Labrador; (c) the consideration of matters of common interest and concern to public accountants; and (d) the prescribing of standards and other qualification required of applicants for a license under the *Act*, the holding of examinations if found necessary, and the setting and marking of examination papers for the purpose of determining the existence of those qualifications. The board may also revoke licenses, provide notice of suspension, hear appeals, restore licenses, and prescribe the titles that individuals engaged in public practice may use.

## **Values**

The work environment of the Public Accountants Licensing Board is focused on protection of consumers and the delivery of exceptional customer service for citizens who engage public accountants. The Public Accountants Licensing Board shares the values articulated by the Department of Government Services.

**Integrity:** Each individual engages in ethical behaviour and exercises the proper use of authority and responsibility.

**Collaboration:** Each individual supports others through communication and consultation with co-workers, industry partners and the public.

**Accountability:** Each individual accepts responsibility for their actions and is responsive to meeting public needs and delivering on Departmental commitments in a timely, efficient and satisfactory manner.

**Respect:** Each individual accepts differences, embraces diversity and exercises a caring attitude in their encounters with others.

**Excellence:** Each individual demonstrates excellence in providing service to the public.

### **Primary Clients**

The Public Accountants Licensing Board's primary clients are the general public of the province with its secondary clients being the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Certified General Accountants Association of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Certified Management Accountants of Newfoundland and Labrador.

### **Vision**

People in Newfoundland and Labrador living and working in healthy and safe environments with access to efficient and responsive programs and services.

The Public Accountants Licensing Board supports the department's vision through its open and responsive regulation of public accountants in the province.

### **Mission**

By March 31, 2017 the Department of Government Services will have enhanced program and service delivery through improved standards that promote living and working in a healthy, fair and safe environment.

The Public Accountants Licensing Board supports this mission of citizen protection and consumer interests through the prescribing of standards and other qualifications required for a license under the *Public Accountancy Act*.

For further information regarding the measures and indicators of the mission, please refer to the Department of Government Services' 2011-14 Strategic Plan.

### **Objectives**

The following objectives represent the annual focus of the board for the next three years in the planning horizon and include performance measurement information. The board is responsible for granting or refusing licenses, keeping and publishing a roll of public accountants in the province, the prescribing of standards and other qualifications for licensure, as well as revoking licenses, hearing appeals and restoring licenses.

**By 2011, 2012 and 2013**, the Public Accountants Licensing Board will have fulfilled all the requirements under the *Act*.

**Measure:** Requirements of the *Act* fulfilled.

**Indicators:**

- Number of licenses issued.
- Number of complaints received.
- Number of disciplinary actions taken.
- Hearing appeals in a timely manner.
- Monitoring compliance of continuing education criteria.
- Roll of public accountants maintained and published.