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PUBLIC SAFETY APPEAL BOARD

ACTIVITY PLAN

2008 - 2011

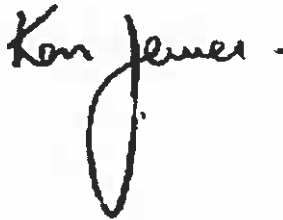
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Chair's Message

Dear Minister:

As Members of the Public Safety Appeal Board, we are pleased to submit this Activity Plan for the activities of the Board for 2008-2011. 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. In developing this Plan, the Board has considered the strategic directions of the Minister of Government Services. The Board is accountable for the preparation of this plan and for the achievement of its objectives.

The Public Safety Appeal Board's primary objectives are the fair and efficient processing of appeals and the rendering of decisions which are clear, consistent and in accordance with the legislation. We look forward to achieving these objectives for 2008-2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Jewer" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kenneth Jewer

Overview

The Public Safety Appeal Board is established under the *Public Safety Act* to hear appeals regarding an order, notice, decision or action issued by the Chief Inspector of amusement rides and elevating devices, pressure systems and electrical systems. The Board, after hearing an appeal, may confirm, revoke or vary the notice, order, decision or action of the chief inspector. The Board meets only when an appeal has been filed. Section 25 (2) of the *Public Safety Act* allows the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council to appoint members who have specific qualifications as prescribed by the regulations. The Board is comprised of professional engineers and electricians. The Appeal Board is comprised of five members with the position of Chair alternating between the members.

Mandate

The Public Safety Appeal Board is established under Section 25 (1) of the *Public Safety Act*. Its mandate is to make decisions regarding a person who believes they have been wrongly treated by an action taken under the *Public Safety Act* or the regulations. The Public Safety Appeal Board is an independent, quasi-judicial body which has the function of hearing and adjudicating an appeal. The Board meets when it has received an appeal pursuant to Section 26 of the *Act* and is empowered to uphold, revise and/or revoke an order or action by the chief inspector. The Board makes its decisions based on review of the written and oral submissions and documents. The Board's decision is final and binding.

Values

In order for the Public Safety Appeal Board to fairly administer its mandate, it is important that a high level of trust and confidence in the independence of the Board be maintained. The Board promotes two values: independence and objectivity. The action statements below speak to how the values are reflected in the conduct of the Board.

Independence: It is important that the Board maintain and be perceived by its clients to have complete independence from the Chief Inspector of Government Services in making its decisions.

Objectivity: The Board will provide services to the public with integrity and fairness. The Board will commit to dealing with all clients in an equitable and unbiased manner.

Primary Clients

The Public Safety Appeal Board clients are the manufacturers and operators of various systems such as electrical, boiler pressure vessel and compressed gas, elevating devices, and amusement rides who believe they have been aggrieved by a decision of the Chief Inspector.

Vision

The Department of Government Services' vision statement is Newfoundlanders and Labradorians living and working in a healthy and safe environment with access to an open, fair, and responsive regulatory system. The Public Safety Appeal Board supports the Department's vision by ensuring the fair and equitable application of its mandate as outlined in the legislation.

Mission

By 2011, the Department of Government Services will have improved citizen protection in the areas of public health and safety, worker health and safety, and consumer interests.

The Public Safety Appeal Board contributes to the Department's mission by ensuring public safety pursuant to its mandate.

Objectives

The following objectives represent the annual focus of the Board and include performance measurement information (i.e., measures and indicators) to assist the entity and the public in monitoring and evaluating success. The Board performs one function – adjudicative. The Chair and the members fulfill the adjudicative function.

Objective 1: By 2009, 2010, and 2011, the Public Safety Appeal Board will have processed all appeals it has received.

Measure: All appeals processed.

Indicators:

- Appeals received.
- Appeal Board convened.
- Appeal considered and decided.
- Decision of Appeal Board communicated to relevant parties.