

Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

Activity Plan Fiscal Years 2020-2023





Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

Chairperson's Message

Honourable Elvis Loveless, Minister
Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture
Petten Building
30 Strawberry Marsh Road
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister Loveless:

In accordance with the **Transparency and Accountability Act**, I am pleased to submit the Activity Plan for the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority (Authority), as a category 3 public body. This activity plan meets the requirements of the **Transparency and Accountability Act** for a category 3 entity and covers the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023.

The Authority has a mandate to ensure that plans for development within the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area conform to the provisions of the **Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Regulations (Regulations)** under the **Lands Act (Act)**.

The strategic directions of Government related to the Department of Fisheries Forestry and Agriculture (formerly Fisheries and Land Resources) have been considered in creation of this activity plan. More specifically, the work undertaken in this plan will assist in reaching the target to increase Newfoundland and Labrador's food self-sufficiency. The Authority has also considered what impact(s) the current COVID-19 pandemic may have on its activities and has determined that impacts will be minimal due the fact that all members of the Authority are Provincial Government employees. .

My signature below is on behalf of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority and is indicative of the Authority's accountability for the preparation of this plan and the achievement of its annual objective.

Respectfully submitted,



David Jennings, P. Ag
Chairperson

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1. Overview

Section 3 (3) and Section 3 (4) of the **Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Regulations** under the **Lands Act** provides for the appointment of the Authority. The Authority is to be appointed by the Minister. The Authority must have at least five members, which will include a Chairperson and a Secretary.

The Authority presently consists of the following members:

Name	Position	Representing
David Jennings	Chairperson	Director, Agriculture Marketing and Research, FFA
William Snow	Secretary	Land Management Officer, FFA
Erica Cole	Member	Industry Development Officer, FFA
Rodger Primmer	Member	Regional Lands Manager, Crown Lands, FFA
Brian Carter	Member	Forest Ecosystem Manager, Forest Services, FFA
Vacant	Member	Land Management Specialist, FFA

The Authority consists of employees of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador by virtue of their position and receives extensive operational support from the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture. Employees of the Department perform many day to day administrative functions. There are no per diems, travel or other expenses associated with the administration of the Authority. Budgetary support for operations is provided through the Department as well. The Authority meets on average six to eight times per fiscal year and often by teleconferencing.

2. Mandate

The Authority was established to consider applications for development activities in the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area as defined by the **Lands Act** and as further described in Section 3 (3) and Section 3 (4) of the **Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Regulations**. A map of the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area is included in Appendix A. The Authority may approve and issue permits or notices of approval, refuse applications, cancel permits and exercise other powers necessary to assess land development applications under the regulations.

For more detail on the regulations, please refer to the House of Assembly web site at: <http://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc961079.htm>.

3. Core Values and Guiding Principles

The Authority performs its duties with the following core values and guiding principles:

Integrity - Each individual will be honest, dependable, fair, credible and trustworthy. They will openly acknowledge mistakes, seek to correct them and learn from them.

Respect and Professionalism - Each individual will apply legislation and policies equitably and will serve the Authority's client groups to the fullest extent possible.

Collaboration - Each individual will seek the opinions and ideas of others in the application of legislation and policies.

Innovation - Each individual will demonstrate initiative and flexibility in responding to challenges and change.

Safety - Each individual views the personal safety of themselves and co-workers in the highest regard and will promote workplace safety at all times.

Productive – Each individual will maximize their productivity and efficiency in carrying out their duties.

Timely – Each individual will conduct their duties in a timely manner and meet all established deadlines.

4. Lines of Business

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority has not identified Lines of Business, as this would be repetitive of its Mandate.

5. Primary Clients

The clients of the Authority are agricultural landowners in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area and members of the general public who apply to undertake development activities in the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area.

6. Vision

Through assessment of applications for development activities in the Wooddale agricultural Development Area, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the vision of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture. The Vision of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture is that of sustainable renewable resources that are responsibly developed for the social, cultural, ecological, and economic well-being of the province.

7. Objective

The Wooddale Agricultural Development Area Regulations were established to support ongoing sustainable agricultural development in the area. The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority reviews applications for all proposed developments within the boundaries of the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area in accordance with the regulations. Applications are submitted on the appropriate forms. Applications are reviewed by the Authority, provided there is a quorum of three members including the Chairperson and Secretary. All applications are given due consideration under the regulations and are either approved or refused according to same. The applicant(s) are notified of the decision of the Authority in a timely manner. In the case of a refusal, the applicant may appeal in writing to the Minister within 30 days after the applicant is notified of the decision by the Authority.

The following issue has been identified as the key priority of the Authority for the three year period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023.

Issue: Development in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area

Objective: By March 31, 2021, the Authority will have worked to ensure development activities in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area are compliant with the Act and Regulations, thus supporting ongoing, sustainable agricultural development in the area.

Indicators:

- Reviewed all applications and rendered decisions.
- Updated applications registry to reflect decisions.
- Communicated decisions to applicants in a timely manner.

- Monitored development activities for compliance with regulations.
- Communicated requirements for development in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area, as per the regulations, to all landowners in the development area.

Appendix A: Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Map

