

Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

Activity Plan Fiscal Years 2023-2026



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:

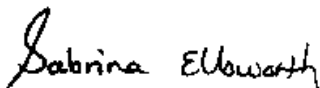
In accordance with the **Transparency and Accountability Act**, I am pleased to submit the Activity Plan for the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority (the Authority), as a category three public body. This activity plan meets the requirements of the **Transparency and Accountability Act** for a category three entity and covers the period April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2026.

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** (the Regulations) under the **Lands Act** (the Act).

The strategic directions of Government related to the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) 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.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Sabrina Ellsworth, M.Sc, P. Ag
Chairperson

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1. Overview

Section 3 of the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Regulations (the Regulations) under the Lands Act provides for the appointment of a Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority (the Authority). The Authority reviews applications for development in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area (Wooddale ADA), located near Bishop’s Falls, to ensure that development within the area is planned and carried out in such a way that the full potential of the area’s resources is reached.

Subsection 3(3) and subsection 3(4) of the Regulations under the Act provides for the appointment of the Authority.

The Authority is to be appointed by the Minister of FFA (the Minister). The Authority must have at least five members, which includes a Chairperson and a Secretary. Appointments are made using a merit-based process; however, gender balance is considered during the appointment process and efforts are made to ensure the Board is representative of the population it serves.

The Authority presently consists of the following members:

Name	Position	Representing
Sabrina Ellsworth	Chair	Director, Agriculture Production and Research, FFA
William Snow	Secretary	Land Management Officer, FFA
Vacant	Member	Industry Development Officer, FFA
Rodger Primmer	Member	Regional Lands Manager, Crown Lands, FFA
Megan Nichols	Member	Land Management Specialist, FFA
Vacant	Member	Forest Ecosystem Manager, Forest Services, FFA

The Authority consists of employees of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador by virtue of their positions and receives extensive operational support from FFA. Employees of FFA perform many daily 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 FFA as well. The Authority meets on an as needed basis, often by teleconferencing.

For more information, please contact the Authority at the below:

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192 Wheeler’s Road
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 6J8

Email: sabrinaellsworth@gov.nl.ca

Phone: 709-637-2046

2. Mandate

The Authority was established to consider applications for development activities in the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area as defined by the Act and as further described in subsection 3(3) and subsection 3(4) of the Regulations. A map of the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area is included in Annex 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: <https://www.assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc961080.htm>.

3. Lines of Business

The Authority has not identified lines of business as this would be repetitive of its mandate.

4. 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.

5. Vision

Through assessment of applications for development activities in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area, the Authority contributes to the vision of FFA. The vision of FFA is that of sustainable renewable resources that are responsibly developed for the social, cultural, ecological, and economic well-being of the province.

6. Issue

The Regulations were established to support ongoing sustainable agricultural development in the area. The Authority reviews applications for all proposed developments within the boundaries of the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area in accordance with the Regulations. 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, 2023, to March 31, 2026. As the focus of the Board will remain the same for the duration of the plan, the Board will report on the same objective and indicators in each of the three years.

Issue: Development in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area

Objective: By March 31, 2024, the Authority will have ensured 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 communicated decisions to applicants.
- 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.

Annex A: Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Map

