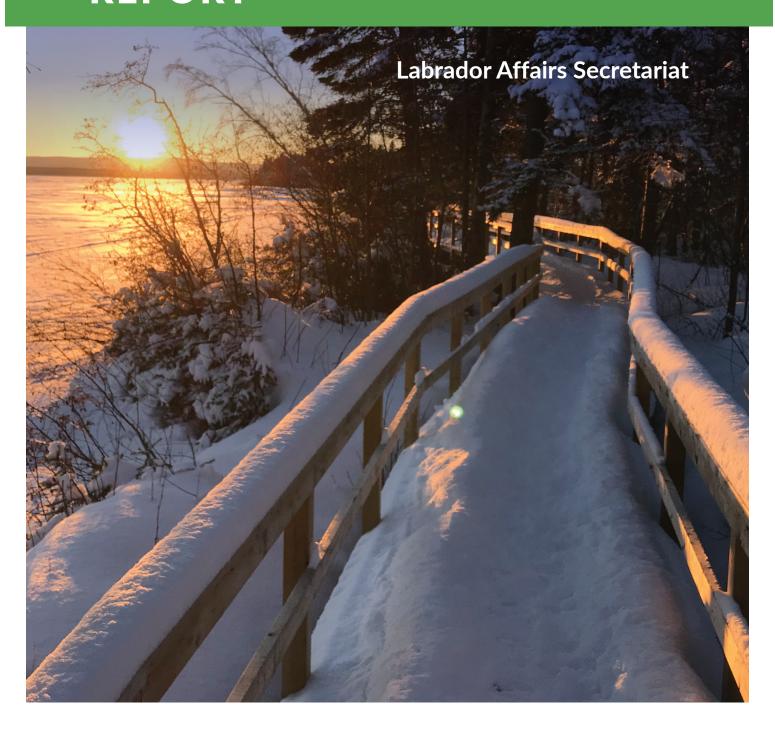
ANNUAL 2018-19







MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

It is my pleasure to present the Labrador Affairs Secretariat Annual Performance Report covering April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, which has been prepared in accordance with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's **Transparency and Accountability Act** provisions. As Premier and Minister of Labrador Affairs, I am accountable for the preparation of this report and the results reported herein.

Consistent with The Way Forward, our Government's vision for sustainability and growth in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat continues to collaborate and build partnerships through its hard work and advocacy that support the economic and social development of Labrador.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of the staff within the Labrador Affairs Secretariat and I look forward to addressing the opportunities and challenges in the year ahead.

Hon. Dwight Ball

Premier

Minister of Labrador Affairs



ANNUAL REPORT 2018 -19

Table of Contents

Departmental Overview	1
Organizational Structure	2
Staff and Budget	2
Highlights and Partnerships	3
Highlights	3
Partnerships	5
Report on Performance	7
Issue One: The Socio-Economic Development of Labrador	7
Issue Two: Labrador Relationships	12
Opportunities and Challenges	16
Financial Information	18

Departmental Overview

The mandate of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat is to advance the social and economic development of Labrador by ensuring the unique perspectives of Labrador are considered in the formation of government policy and in the delivery of Provincial Government programs and services in Labrador.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat is responsible for the development, implementation and administration of provincial policies and programs respecting Labrador issues. The Labrador Affairs Secretariat aims to ensure that provincial policies, programs and services consider Labrador-related issues by providing advice to Provincial Government departments and agencies and through its participation in provincial horizontal initiatives.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat is responsible for the administration of Labrador-specific programming through the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy and the Labrador Aboriginal Nutritional and Artistic Assistance program. The Secretariat also supports the Combined Councils of Labrador by providing an annual operating grant. Labrador-specific programming demonstrates Government's commitment to Labrador and supports engagement with Labrador stakeholders.

In addition to programming, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat often takes a prominent role on Labrador-focused committees such as the Arctic Policy Working Group and the Labrador Winter Games, and liaises with other Northern ministries and assists in the management of intergovernmental relations on Labrador/Northern issues, such as the Northern Development Ministers Forum and the Arctic and Northern Policy Framework. The Secretariat is also consulted on Labrador-related initiatives by other provincial departments and provides support as required.

Additional information on the mandate and lines of business of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat is located on its website at https://www.gov.nl.ca/ola/.

Organizational Structure

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat supports the entire Labrador region. It has offices in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Wabush. The Trail Inspector (seasonal) is located in North West River from December through May.

- Deputy Minister
- Executive Director
- Director of Labrador Affairs
- Director of Communications
- Secretary to the Deputy Minister
- Four Senior Analysts
- Clerk Typist III
- Trail Inspector (seasonal)

The Director of Communications is also responsible for providing support to the Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs Secretariat.

Staff and Budget

Division	# of Employees	Budget
Labrador Affairs Secretariat	11	\$1,810,046

The total expenditure, including salaries and operations, of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat for 2018-19 was \$1,810,046.

Highlights and Partnerships

Highlights

Arctic and Northern Initiatives

The geographic location of Labrador and its proximity to the Arctic has provided the province with the opportunity to engage in areas of economic and social development in the Arctic and Canada's North. The Labrador Affairs Secretariat leads Arctic and Northern policy initiatives for the Province. This falls within the mandate of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat to advance the social and economic development of Labrador while providing advice on government policies, planning and programs that impact Labrador.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat has long been involved with policy initiatives in Canada's North. Since 2000, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat has played a lead role in the Northern Development Ministers Forum (NDMF) for the Province. The mandate of the NDMF is to advance the diverse and common interests of the people living in Canada's North, while raising awareness among decision-makers and the public about the accomplishments, contributions and potential of the North.

In January 2019, the NDMF was hosted by the Government of Canada in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories with the theme "Inclusive Partnerships in the North". Due to inclement weather, officials from the Province were unable to travel but joined the Forum via videoconference. The Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier, along with the Deputy Minister of Labrador Affairs Secretariat and other staff participated, in the Forum.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat led the priority project "Government Service Delivery in Northern Communities" and collaborated with various Provincial Government entities including Labrador-Grenfell Health regarding its Regional Nurse Retention Program. The Secretariat also worked with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation on requirements for the British Columbia led project "Growing the Digital"

Economy in Remote Northern Communities". Officials with the Labrador Affairs Secretariat regularly participated in teleconferences with colleagues in other northern jurisdictions for the planning of the Forum, to work on priority projects, and other requirements as needed. For further information on the NDMF and to view the priority reports please visit https://www.gov.nl.ca/ola/grantsprograms-we-offer/northern-development-ministers-forum/.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat chairs the Arctic Policy Working Group. The working group is comprised of various provincial departments/entities that have an active involvement or interest in the Arctic and Canada's North. The mandate of the group is to facilitate the coordination and collaboration between Provincial Government departments and entities on the social and economic development activities of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador related to the Arctic and Canada's North.

The Government of Canada is developing the Arctic and Northern Policy Framework (ANPF) which is expected to provide overarching direction to the Federal Government's priorities, activities and investments in the Arctic until 2030. The Labrador Affairs Secretariat represents Newfoundland and Labrador on the ANPF working group with officials from the governments of Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Manitoba, Quebec, and Canada and participates in regularly scheduled teleconferences. In May, September and November of 2018, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat attended working group meetings in Ottawa. The Secretariat met with officials from the Federal Government in Happy Valley-Goose Bay in January 2019 to discuss upcoming requirements and timelines for the Province as well as Indigenous engagement.

Labrador Winter Games

The Labrador Winter Games was held in Happy Valley-Goose Bay from March 17-23, 2019 with over 300 athletes from all areas of Labrador participating and approximately 400 volunteers assisting. The "Friendship Games" as they are often referred is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the rich, diverse culture of Labrador while promoting the benefits of competitive sport and healthy active living. The Provincial Government is

a strong and committed supporter of the Labrador Winter Games since its inception in 1983 and provided \$500,000 in funding for the 2019 Games. Officials from the Labrador Affairs Secretariat and the Department of Children, Seniors and Social Development sit on the Labrador Winter Games Board and assisted in the planning and development process. Many Provincial Government officials attended the games and events. Premier Ball had the opportunity to attend a number of events during the Games and welcomed the athletes during the opening ceremonies. The Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Judy Foote, also attended the Games and addressed the athletes during the closing ceremonies. For subsequent games, funding will be administered through the Labrador Affairs Secretariat which will assume the lead for the Province.

Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy

In 2018-19, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat continued to provide funding to support the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy (LTGS). The purpose of the LTGS is to maintain snowmobile trails to remote Labrador communities that do not have year-round road connection to service centres. The communities include Hopedale, Makkovik, Postville, Rigolet, Norman Bay, Black Tickle, and Mud Lake. In 2018-19, through the commitment to improve outcomes under *The Way Forward*, the winter trail system was expanded to include the marking of trails from Hopedale to Nain.

Partnerships

Labrador Engagement

In 2018-19, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat worked in collaboration with the Public Engagement Division of the Communications and Public Engagement Branch to support stakeholder engagement and consultation in Labrador. The Secretariat provided support for sessions in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Sheshatshiu and the Labrador West region. Engagement sessions included topics such as housing and homelessness, mineral strategy, community sector, health services, and pre-budget consultations.

Local River Watch Monitoring Committee

In response to the 2017 flooding of the community of Mud Lake, a Local River Watch Monitoring Committee (LRWMC) was set up to monitor activity updates along the river. The committee is led by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment and consists of local and Government representatives including the Labrador Affairs Secretariat. The committee holds regular meetings to solicit feedback during the ice formation and ice breakup seasons and support community readiness in the event of flooding.

Mining Initiatives

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat continued to support mining initiatives in Labrador through collaboration with other provincial government departments/entities. Throughout 2018-19, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat co-chaired the Labrador West Regional Taskforce, and represents the Province on the working group with officials from the Province and the Government of Quebec on the cooperative agreement between the provinces concerning the development of the Labrador Trough and the improvement and extension of road infrastructure. The Secretariat also sits on the Implementation Committee for Mining the Future 2030 which is the Province's plan for growth in the mining industry. The Secretariat worked, and collaborated with, Government departments on the new mining operation in Wabush, Tacora Resources' Scully Mine.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat sits on the Environmental Assessment Committee for the proposed Labrador Foxtrot Rare Earth Element Mine project located near the South Coast community of St. Lewis. Meetings, both in-person and via teleconference, were held throughout the year and in August 2018 the Labrador Affairs Secretariat toured the proposed site along with other committee members.

Report on Performance

The goals and objectives identified below are based on the assigned 2017-20 reporting period.

Issue One: The Socio-Economic Development of Labrador

The mandate of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat is to ensure provincial policies, programs and planning must appropriately adapt to the unique issues and opportunities that exist in Labrador.

Major resource developments in Labrador contribute to the economic progress of Labrador, and the province as a whole. As these developments are pursued, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat collaborates with departments to ensure they reflect the social, cultural, geographic and economic needs of the region.

Advocacy, open communication and support are required to ensure that matters of importance to Labrador are addressed, with the Labrador Affairs Secretariat taking leadership in these areas. Through Government's strategic planning process, the Secretariat will help ensure the Province is prepared for existing and future demands.

Goal Statement

By March 31, 2020, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will have supported the socioeconomic development of Labrador through implementation, collaboration, communication and input from a Labrador perspective.

2018-19 Objective

By March 31, 2019, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support the socioeconomic development of Labrador through implementation, collaboration, communication and providing information from a Labrador perspective.

ANNUAL REPORT 2018 -19

Indicator	Status
Implemented expansion of	Budget 2018 allocated an additional \$68,000 in operational
the Labrador Transportation	funding for the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy
Grooming Subsidy to include	(LTGS) to enhance the safety of the traveling public and
access to Nain and	expand access to residents of Nain and Natuashish.
Natuashish	
	The Labrador Affairs Secretariat worked with the service
	providers in Hopedale and Nain on the administration of the
	program for the 2018-19 grooming season. The Secretariat
	coordinated the requirements for the trail expansion which
	included emergency shelters and reflective markers. The
	Department of Transportation and Works provided a one-time
	budget allocation of \$143,000 to fund the shelters and
	markers.
	The trail expansion was completed for the 2019 10 access
	The trail expansion was completed for the 2018-19 season
	with reflective markers placed on the trails. The four
	emergency shelters will be in place for the 2019-20 winter
	season.
Renewed contracts for the	As part of the contract requirements under the Labrador
Labrador Aboriginal	Aboriginal Nutritional and Artistic Assistance Program, the
Nutritional and Artistic	proponents are required to provide invoices and summaries of
Assistance Program	how the funding was utilized to the Labrador Affairs
	Secretariat.
	The Labrador Affairs Secretariat received supporting
	documentation from the proponents between April-June 2018.
	The funding was used to support food security initiatives such
	as food banks and the transportation of moose meat.
	Now contracts for the 2019 10 feed to a survivar duefted and
	New contracts for the 2018-19 fiscal year were drafted and
	signed between July-September 2018 with \$20,000 provided
	to the Nunatsiavut Government, \$20,000 to the NunatuKavut
	Community Council and \$10,000 to the Innu Nation.

Collaborated with other northern jurisdictions and federal government entities on economic and social development in the North

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat leads Arctic and northern policy for the Province which entails various initiatives such as the drafting of the ANPF, the Newfoundland and Labrador-Nunavut Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Arctic Council Advisory Committee, the Northern Development Ministers Forum, the Northern Transportation Adaption Initiative, the Wood Fuel Working Group and the Arctic Policy Working Group.

With these initiatives, the Secretariat worked with the three Territorial Governments, Provincial Governments with northern jurisdictions, and the Government of Canada. The Secretariat met with Natural Resources Canada in June 2018 to discuss reducing diesel reliance for coastal communities in Labrador and with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada in January 2019 to discuss requirements of the ANPF. The Secretariat also worked with Transport Canada on a committee that looks at impacts of climate change on transportation infrastructure in the North.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat continued to co-chair the Labrador West Regional Taskforce. The Taskforce is comprised of provincial, federal, mining and municipal representatives. Meetings were held in May and September of 2018 and February 2019.

The Secretariat continued to participate on the committee developing the Newfoundland and Labrador Mining Strategy and sit on the working group with officials from the Province and the Government of Quebec on the Cooperative Agreement between the provinces concerning the development of the Labrador Trough and the improvement and extension of road infrastructure.

Participated on boards/committees and in consultations/ meetings to provide input from a Labrador perspective The Labrador Affairs Secretariat continued to participate in various consultations and meetings covering a wide variety of topics throughout 2018-19. Some include:

- Labrador West Regional Taskforce;
- Arctic Policy Working Group (provincial);
- Arctic and Northern Policy Framework Working Group (federal);
- Newfoundland and Labrador-Quebec Cooperative Agreement for the Labrador Trough and Road Infrastructure;
- Northern Transportation Adaptation Initiative;
- Northern Development Ministers Forum Senior Officials Working Group;
- Wood Heat in Newfoundland and Labrador;
- Clean Growth/Clean Tech;
- Environmental Assessment Committee on the proposed Foxtrot Rare Earth Elements mine;
- Housing Action Team;
- Homelessness Partnering Strategy;
- Destination Labrador;
- Labrador Friendship Centre Annual General Meeting;
- Violence Prevention Labrador;
- Newfoundland and Labrador Geographical Names Board;
- Labrador Salmonid Advisory committee;
- Central Labrador Tourism Committee; and,
- Local River Watch Management Committee.

The Secretariat either led the committee/meeting or attended. Information gathered during these activities assists the Labrador Affairs Secretariat in providing advice from a Labrador lens on Government policies and programs.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat also attended and participated in a number of consultations and engagement sessions, including:

- Pre-budget consultations in Happy Valley-Goose Bay and Labrador West:
- Let's Talk Housing: the Happy Valley-Goose Bay Housing and Homelessness Committee;
- Provincial Mineral Strategy Consultations in Labrador West and Happy Valley-Goose Bay;
- College of the North Atlantic Strategic Planning Workshop;
- Nunatsiavut Government Regional Food Security Planning Workshop;
- Social Enterprise Planning Workshop;
- Seniors Health Care Provisions in Labrador 2016-2036;
- Succession Planning and Small Medium-Sized Enterprises in Labrador and the Northern Peninsula; and,
- Community Engagement Consultations with the volunteer/not for profit sector.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat assisted Government consultations in Labrador by facilitating and/or recording during sessions. The Secretariat was relied upon by other Government entities to attend sessions or consultations on their behalf and to provide information/input.

Discussion of Results

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat continued to provide Labrador-specific programming to support Labrador's economic and social development. It also continued to engage stakeholders through these programs. Through participation in various stakeholder engagement and government sessions, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat was able to gather local information which was used to support public policy and decision-making.

2019-20 Objective and Indicators

By March 31, 2020, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support the socioeconomic development of Labrador through implementation, collaboration, communication and providing information from a Labrador perspective.

Indicators:

- Improved snowmobile safety in Labrador by enhancing the quality of trail equipment for the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy;
- Renewed contracts for the Labrador Aboriginal Nutritional and Artistic Assistance Program;
- Enhanced Labrador-specific programming by including the Labrador Sport Travel Program and School Sport Program;
- Collaborated with other northern jurisdictions and Federal Government entities on economic and social development in the North;
- Participated on boards/committees and in consultations/meetings to provide input from a Labrador perspective.

Issue Two: Labrador Relationships

Through open communication and consultations with stakeholders, residents, and community advocates, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat can better understand and represent the concerns of Labradorians.

In addition to open dialogue and communication with Labrador's residents, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat communicates and collaborates with other Provincial Government departments and agencies to ensure that information and advice is reviewed with a Labrador perspective.

Through networking and information gathering, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat's mission is to advocate for the appropriate consideration and integration of Labrador's needs into provincial policies, planning and programs.

Goal Statement

By March 31, 2020, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will have increased collaboration with Labrador stakeholders through communication, consultation and input from a Labrador perspective.

2018-19 Objective

By March 31, 2019, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support Labrador relations through communication, consultation and input from a Labrador perspective.

Indicator	Status
Developed a stakeholder	In 2018-19 the Labrador Affairs Secretariat worked in
engagement plan	collaboration with the Public Engagement Division of the
	Communications and Public Engagement and Planning
	Branch to develop a stakeholder engagement plan. The
	Labrador Affairs Secretariat supported consultations and
	engagement sessions in Labrador and provided
	resources to assist with engagement. The Secretariat
	also provided input on sessions and worked with
	Provincial Government departments/entities, the Federal
	Government, municipalities, and community
	organizations on engagement sessions.
Conducted meetings with	The Labrador Affairs Secretariat participated in 11
service providers of the	teleconferences with service providers from December
Labrador Transportation	2018 - March 2019. A Senior Analyst and the Trail
Grooming Subsidy	Inspector travelled to Nain and met with the Nain Inuit
program	Community Government on extension of the trail to Nain.
	Meetings with Hopedale occurred via teleconference due
	to travel cancellations with inclement weather.
	1

The Trail Inspector also travelled the groomed and marked trails from Happy Valley-Goose Bay to Mud Lake, Rigolet, Postville, Makkovik, Hopedale and Nain and spoke with the groomer operators and program administrators in all serviced communities. The purpose of the trail visits is to engage the service providers and identify any concerns and/or deficiencies with the trails.

Facilitated the coordination of meetings between the Combined Councils of Labrador (CCL) and provincial government departments

The CCL Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place in February 2019 in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Government officials participating as speakers/presenters at the AGM included the Ministers of Children, Seniors and Social Development; Fisheries and Land Resources; Health and Community Services; Municipal Affairs and Environment; the Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier and the MHA for Torngat Mountains; the Speaker of the House and the MHA for Lake Melville; and the Assistant Deputy-Transportation and Works. Resolutions from the CCL AGM were forwarded to various Government departments/entities.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat coordinated meetings between the CCL Executive Board and provincial government departments. Meetings were held in St. John's in May 2018 with the Ministers of Children, Seniors and Social Development; Fisheries and Land Resources; Health and Community Services; Municipal Affairs and Environment; Natural Resources; Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation; and, Transportation and Works. The CCL board was also able to meet with the Premier in his capacity as the Minister of Labrador Affairs during that period.

Supported the Premier's engagement in Labrador and other activities related to the North

In 2018-19, Labrador Affairs Secretariat supported the Premier and/or the Parliamentary Assistant to the Premier in a number of Labrador-related conferences, events, and meetings by preparing briefing materials, speaking notes and coordinating logistics. Some of these events included participating in:

- Expo Labrador 2018;
- Northern Exposure Conference and Exhibition 2019;
- Northern Development Ministers Forum in January 2019; and,
- Labrador Winter Games 2019.

2019-20 Objective and Indicators

By March 31, 2020, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support Labrador relations through communication, consultation and input from a Labrador perspective.

Indicators:

- Conducted community visits and meetings with service providers of the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy program;
- Increased participation in Labrador stakeholder engagement sessions;
- Facilitated the coordination of meetings between the Combined Councils of Labrador and Provincial Government departments; and,
- Supported the Premier's engagement in Labrador and other activities related to the North.

Opportunities and Challenges

Labrador holds tremendous potential for future development in the mining, agriculture, tourism and other renewable resource sectors. As noted in The Way Forward, the priority for Newfoundland and Labrador is be a strong diversified province with a high standard of living. Labrador has an abundance of natural resources that holds tremendous potential for future economic development. Mining is one of Newfoundland and Labrador's largest and oldest industries, and a major contributor to the economy of the province.

The Labrador West region has a thriving iron ore mining industry and is home to one of the largest private sector employers in the province, the Iron Ore Company of Canada (IOC). The region is experiencing growth with Tacora Resources' new operation in Wabush and IOC's new mining pit Wabush 3. On the North Coast, Vale is proceeding with its underground expansion in Voisey's Bay which is expected to extend the life of the mine by at least 15 years. Search Minerals is engaged in the environmental assessment process to develop a rare earth minerals mine on the South Coast. In addition to these projects, there is mineral exploration occurring throughout Labrador with potential for future development.

As part of The Way Forward on Agriculture, a sector work plan launched jointly with farmers throughout our province, the Provincial Government is working to enable commercial egg production and improve the distribution of healthier, more affordable, locally produced food products in Labrador. These actions, taken together in partnership with local farmers, will help improve food self-sufficiency in communities across Labrador. Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support these efforts.

Transportation remains a critical focus for development in Labrador. Widening and hard surfacing continues along the Trans Labrador Highway. In 2019 coastal Labrador will have two new ferry services. The Qajaq W. had its initial run in January across the Strait of Belle Isle. The Kamutik W. is expected to begin service on the North/South Coasts in

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

early Summer 2019. Both services are fully accessible with ice-strengthened bows and will reduce the previous carbon footprint in half.

Social issues, such as homelessness, affordable housing, mental health and addictions, remain a concern across Labrador. The Labrador Affairs Secretariat continues to work with stakeholders and participate on the Central Labrador Housing Action Team to examine means of addressing homelessness.

Opportunities in the North and Arctic and how the province maximizes these developments will be high on the agenda for the Labrador Affairs Secretariat. The Secretariat will continue to participate and represent the province through the Northern Development Ministers Forum and lead initiatives such as the Arctic Policy Working Group.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to offer Labrador-specific programming and to provide advice and input on government policy and programming that impacts Labrador.

Ultimately, the Secretariat strives to advance the well-being of all Labrador communities and is optimistic about future opportunities for the region.

Financial Information

	2018-19		
	Actual	Revised Budget	Original Budget
01. Salaries	498,372	498,400	468,300
Employee Benefits	2,572	2,900	2,900
Transportation and Communications	59,578	64,000	64,000
Supplies	1,959	1,300	1,300
Purchased Services	231	1,600	1,600
02. Operating Accounts	64,340	69,800	69,800
Total: Executive Support	562,712	568,200	538,100
		•	
01. Salaries	618,503	616,200	573,200
Employee Benefits	3,184	2,800	1,900
Transportation and Communications	43,929	50,200	50,200
Supplies	6,777	10,000	6,400
Purchased Services	9,401	8,100	13,000
Property, Furnishings & Equipment	0	0	(
02. Operating Accounts	63,291	71,100	71,500
10. Grants and Subsidies	565,540	569,000	569,000
Total Labrador Affairs	1,247,334	1,256,300	1,213,700
tal: Labrador Affairs	\$1,810,046		

*Expenditure and revenue figures included in this document are based on public information provided in the Report on Program Expenditures and Revenues of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for Fiscal Year Ended 31 March 2019.

