

BUILDINGS ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY BOARD

ACTIVITY PLAN

2008 - 2011

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Chair's Message

Dear Minister:

On behalf of the members of the Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board, I am 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, none of which apply to its mandated activities. The Board is accountable for the preparation of this plan and for the achievement of its objectives.

The Board had previously indicated that while it was inactive, it would provide an Activity Plan upon becoming active. This Plan is the result of the Board's recent reactivation.

The mandate of the Board is to report to and advise the Minister of the Department of Government Services on the application of the *Buildings Accessibility Act* and regulations, and on all other matters related to the *Act* and regulations that may be assigned to the Board by the Minister. We look forward to fulfilling this mandate for 2008-2011.

Sincerely,



Kimberley Gillard

Chair

Overview

The Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council under the authority of section 18 of the *Buildings Accessibility Act*, RSNL1990 B-10. The Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board consists of a chairperson, representatives of persons with disabilities, one representative of the Department, other than the director, and those other members that the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council may appoint. This public body, which is funded by the Department of Government Services, is an advisory mechanism only.

Mandate

The mandate of the Board is to report to and advise the Minister of the Department of Government Services on the application of the *Buildings Accessibility Act* and regulations, and on all other matters related to the *Act* and regulations that may be assigned to the Board by the Minister.

Values

The work environment of the Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board is focused on improving accessibility to public buildings for all citizens in the province, particularly those with physical disabilities. The Board shares the values articulated by the Department of Government Services.

Accountability: Each person accepts responsibility for their actions and follows through on requests and commitments.

Integrity: Each person engages in ethical behaviour exercising proper use of authority and responsibility.

Respect: Each person accepts differences and exercises courtesy in their encounters with others.

Primary Clients

The Board's only direct client is the Minister of Government Services, to whom the Board provides advice. More broadly, however, clients are the general public, particularly those with physical disabilities, and those representing their interests, who avail of any improvements brought about due to the board's advice.

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 Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board supports the Department's vision by working to ensure the fair and equitable application of its mandate as outlined in the legislation, i.e., advising the Minister.

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 Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board contributes to the Department's mission by working to support accessibility in public buildings pursuant to its mandate. While it contributes, the Board does not fully represent the Department's mission. For more information, see the Department's Strategic Plan for 2008-2011, at <http://www.gs.gov.nl.ca/consultation>.

Objective

The following objective represents the focus of the Buildings Accessibility Advisory Board in each of the years of this Plan, and includes performance measurement information (i.e., measures and indicators) to assist the entity and the public in monitoring and evaluating success.

While activities such as meeting and advising the Minister reflect the mandate of the Board, educational activities will benefit Board members immensely, as it has recently become active and does not have a longstanding knowledge base on which to draw.

By March 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, the Board will have fulfilled all the requirements under the Act by addressing matters pertaining to buildings accessibility, as per its mandate.

Measure: Requirements of the Act fulfilled, as per its mandate.

Indicators (as per yearly priorities):

- Educational activities undertaken;
- Meetings held;
- Recommendations delivered to Minister;
- Other activities undertaken as assigned by the Minister

Pursuant to the *Transparency and Accountability Act*, the Board will provide annual Activity Reports at the end of each fiscal year, as long as it remains active.