

Labrador Affairs Secretariat

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# Activity Plan

2020 - 2023







## MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

As Minister Responsible for Labrador Affairs, I am pleased to present our activity plan for fiscal years 2020-21 to 2022-23. It provides an overview of the entity and indicates key goals and objectives to be accomplished during this period.

In consideration of Government's strategic directions to support the socio-economic development of Labrador, as well as strengthen relationships with Labrador stakeholders, organizations and government departments, key priorities of the Minister's mandate have been identified for the next three years. Outcomes of these directions include program administration, advocacy, partnership, collaboration and engagement.

As the Minister Responsible for Labrador Affairs, I am accountable for the preparation of this plan and for the achievements of the goals and objectives pertaining to the Secretariat.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Dempster". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping underline.

Hon. Lisa Dempster  
Minister Responsible for Labrador Affairs



# Departmental Overview

## **Mandate:**

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.

## **Lines of Business:**

### **1. Policy, Programs and Planning**

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 Secretariat is responsible for the administration of Labrador specific programs and grants that include:

- the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy;
- the Labrador Aboriginal Nutritional and Artistic Assistance Program;
- the Labrador Sport Travel Subsidy Program and School Sport Program;
- and,
- annual funding support for the Combined Councils of Labrador.

### **2. Coordination, Collaboration and Advocacy**

To achieve its mandate to advance the social and economic development of Labrador, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat coordinates, collaborates, and advocates for Labrador related initiatives. The Secretariat collaborates with

provincial government departments/entities, federal, territorial and municipal governments, industry organizations and social enterprises.

In addition to programming, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat often takes a prominent role on Labrador-focused committees such as the Arctic Policy Working Group. The Secretariat liaises with other Northern ministries and assists in the management of intergovernmental relations on Labrador and 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.

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat works in collaboration with the Public Engagement Division of the Communications and Public Engagement Branch to support stakeholder engagement and consultation in Labrador. The Secretariat is consulted on Labrador related initiatives by other provincial departments and provides support as required. The Secretariat also works with Labrador stakeholders on issues relevant to the region.

**Clients/Stakeholders:**

The primary clients and stakeholders of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat include:

- Labrador residents, communities and groups, who expect leadership in facilitating economic and social development in Labrador;
- The Provincial Government and its departments/entities which require policy advice and input on Labrador issues;
- Federal, municipal, and Indigenous governments and organizations that seek information and input on Labrador issues; and,
- Clients of the Labrador-specific programs in which the Secretariat administers.

Additional information on the mandate and lines of business of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat is located on its website at [www.gov.nl.ca/las](http://www.gov.nl.ca/las).

## Staff and Budget

	2020-21 Estimates	Staff Complement
Labrador Affairs Secretariat	\$2,568,200	10

The Labrador Affairs Secretariat supports the entire Labrador region. It's office is located at 438-440 Hamilton River Road in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. The Secretariat's staff include:

- Deputy Minister
- 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 Affairs Secretariat and the Office of Indigenous Affairs and Reconciliation.

## Issue One: Socio-Economic Development of Labrador

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

The Secretariat collaborates with provincial government departments/entities, federal, territorial and municipal governments, industry organizations and social enterprises to advance social and economic development in Labrador. The Labrador Affairs Secretariat works with entities that provide frontline delivery of important supports such as housing, food security, health and transportation to address issues of social and economic relevance.

Resource development in Labrador contributes to the economic progress of Labrador, and to the province as a whole. As these developments are pursued, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat works with departments and entities 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, the Secretariat will help ensure the Province is prepared for existing and future demands.

### **GOAL:**

By March 31, 2023, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will have supported the socio-economic development of Labrador through implementation, collaboration, communication and input from a Labrador perspective.



### **Indicators:**

- Administered Labrador-specific programs to address the needs of Labradorians;
- Provided advice on all relevant government policies, programs and planning impacting Labrador;
- Facilitated supports related to social and economic development in Labrador; and,
- Participated on boards/committees and in consultations/meetings to provide input from a Labrador perspective.

### **Objective 1:**

By March 31, 2021, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will have supported the socio-economic development of Labrador through implementation, collaboration, communication and input from a Labrador perspective.

### **Indicators:**

- Lead Arctic and Northern Policy initiatives for the Province;
- Administer Labrador specific programming;
- Consider collaborative approach across Government departments to support social and economic development in Labrador; and,
- Participate on boards/committees and in consultations/meetings to provide input from a Labrador perspective.

### **Objective 2:**

By March 31, 2022, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support the socio-economic development of Labrador through implementation, collaboration, communication and providing information from a Labrador perspective.

### **Objective 3:**

By March 31, 2023, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support the socio-economic development of Labrador through implementation, collaboration, communication and providing information 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 the open dialogue and communication with Labrador's stakeholders, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat communicates and collaborates with other provincial departments and agencies to ensure that information and advice is reviewed with a Labrador perspective.

Through information gathering and knowledge, the Secretariat's mission to advocate for the appropriate consideration and integration of Labrador's needs into provincial policies, planning and programs may be achieved.

### **GOAL:**

By March 31, 2023, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will have increased collaboration with Labrador stakeholders through communication, consultation and input from a Labrador perspective.

### **Indicators:**

- Strengthen relationships through direct engagement with Government departments and entities;
- Provide input on Labrador perspectives in the development of government policy, planning and programs;
- Communicate and monitor provincial government initiatives related to Labrador; and,
- Participate on boards and committees and in consultations and meetings to provide input on a Labrador perspective.

### **Objective 1:**

By March 31, 2021, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will have increased collaboration with Labrador stakeholders through communication, consultation and input from a Labrador perspective.

### **Indicators:**

- Enhance Labrador Affairs Secretariat presence in all regions of Labrador by engaging Labrador stakeholders;
- Continue to conduct meetings with service providers of the Labrador Transportation Grooming Subsidy program;
- Assist with the coordination of meetings between the Combined Councils of Labrador and provincial government departments; and,
- Participate in Labrador-related conferences and events such as Expo Labrador, Northern Lights, and Cain's Quest.

### **Objective 2:**

By March 31, 2021, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue to support Labrador relations through communication, consultation and input from a Labrador perspective.

**Objective 3:**

By March 31, 2023, the Labrador Affairs Secretariat will continue support Labrador relations through communication, consultation and input from a Labrador perspective.

## Annex A: Strategic Directions

Strategic Directions are the articulation of desired physical, social and economic outcomes and normally require action by more than one government entity.

These directions are generally communicated by government strategic directions, platform documents, Throne and Budget Speeches, policy documents, and other communique. The **Transparency and Accountability Act** requires departments and public bodies to take into account these strategic directions in the preparation of their performance-based plans. This action will facilitate the integration of planning practices across government and will ensure that all entities are moving forward on key commitments.

The strategic directions that are relevant to the Labrador Affairs Secretariat are provided below. Each direction is comprised of a number of components or focus areas. These focus areas will be addressed through the various planning processes of the Labrador Affairs Secretariat.

Title: Socio-economic development

Outcome: Enhance the social and economic development for Labrador

This outcome supports the Labrador Affairs Secretariat's vision of a strong, sustainable and vibrant Labrador, where all people have the opportunity to prosper and contribute to their communities, regions and the province. This will require focus in the following areas:

- Program administration
- Stewardship and advocacy
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Provincial Government policy and program delivery responsive to Labrador interests

Title: Labrador relationships

Outcome: Strengthen relationships between Labrador, government and organizations

This outcome supports the Labrador Affairs Secretariat's vision of a strong, sustainable and vibrant Labrador, where all people have the opportunity to prosper and contribute to their communities, regions and the province. This will require focus in the following areas:

- Engagement and collaboration
- Coordination
- Provincial Government policies, programs and services reflecting Labrador interests



