

Order of Newfoundland and Labrador

Activity Report 2015-2016

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As chair of the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Advisory Council, I am pleased to present the 2015-2016 Activity Report. The Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Advisory Council is established under the *Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Act* and its membership is appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council

This plan covers the activity of the Advisory Council from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016. My signature is on behalf of the Advisory Council and is indicative of our accountability for actual results reported herein.



**Bernard Coffey**  
Chair

## OVERVIEW

The Order of Newfoundland and Labrador is the highest honour of the province. The object of the Order is to recognize individuals who have demonstrated excellence and achievement in any field of endeavour benefiting in an outstanding manner Newfoundland and Labrador and its residents. The first investiture took place in 2004.

Any Canadian citizen who is a current or former long-term resident of Newfoundland and Labrador is eligible for nomination to the Order. The only exceptions are public officials, such as judges, members of the Senate, House of Commons, House of Assembly or legislative assembly of a province, and members of municipal, town, regional councils or local service district committees. Posthumous nominations are not accepted. Organizations, groups, or couples may not be nominated; the Order is for individuals only.

An individual who is not a Canadian citizen or current or former long-term resident of the province, but who has demonstrated excellence in their field of endeavour, and who has benefited the Province and its residents in an outstanding manner, may be nominated as an honorary member.

The Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Advisory Council is appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council each for a term of 3 years as per section 12 of the *Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Act*. The Council is to be composed of the Clerk of the Executive Council who is a member by virtue of his or her office; 2 individuals who are members of the Order; and not more than 4 individuals appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. Current membership is comprised of:

The Clerk of the Executive Council (by virtue of his/her office)

- Ms. Katherine Baikie-Pottle
- Ms. Virginia Halley
- Captain Sidney Hynes
- Ms. Colleen Kennedy
- Mr. Jim Lynch

The Deputy Clerk of the Executive Council is appointed as secretary to the Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council meets at least once per year pursuant to section 13 of the *Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Act* or more frequently as required.

## **MANDATE**

The Advisory Council receives its mandate from section 10 of the *Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Act*. Specifically, it is mandated to consider nominations received, and shall recommend to the Chancellor the names of not more than 8 individuals in each year who in the opinion of the council are worthy of receiving the Order. Pursuant to section 8(2) of the Act, the Council may also recommend an honorary member to the Chancellor for induction into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador.

## **VISION**

The Advisory Council's vision is recognition of persons who have demonstrated excellence in his or her field of endeavour, and whose endeavours have benefited in an outstanding manner, the Province and its residents.

The Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Advisory Council has a very specific mandate to accept and consider nominations of persons eligible for the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador and make recommendations to the Chancellor of the Order, the Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador. As such, the Advisory Council has not developed a mission or goals. The Advisory Council will report annually upon its activity toward the objective detailed below.

## **OBJECTIVE**

By March 31, 2016, the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador Advisory Council will have made recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador (as Chancellor) regarding the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador.

## **MEASURE**

Recommendations are made to the Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador regarding the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador

## **INDICATORS**

- Meetings held as required
- Considered nominations made for the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Provided appropriate recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador

## **ACTIVITIES**

- On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 the Advisory Council members met to discuss nominations and to make recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor for selected nominations to be inducted into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador.
- On September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 an investiture ceremony was held at Government House in St. John's where eight Newfoundlanders and Labradorians and one honorary member was inducted into the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador. (appendix 1)
- In January, 2016 nominations were called for the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador for the upcoming year.

## Appendix 1

### Order of Newfoundland and Labrador – 2015 Inductees

- **Calvin White** – Born in Flat Bay NL. An influential Mi'kmaq leader who was known for fighting for Mi'kmaq rights in the late 1960's. He was the driving force behind the revitalization of the Mi'kmaq culture. Calvin has acted as President of the Federations of NL Indians and the Chief of the Flat Bay Band. He has contributed countless hours serving his community, Aboriginal and non- aboriginal alike. He is noted for the following statement..."What I got involved with in the 70's and what I'm still involved in today is the revival of a nation. That's what we are doing – we're reviving a nation. We're trying to bring back something that was on the edge of extinction".
- **Shannie Duff** – St. John's NL. Nominated because of her passion and commitment to volunteerism. She has demonstrated excellence and achievement in her long standing and extensive volunteer work. Her passion and dedication has had a significant impact on community and individuals. All of the organizations she helped found still exist today providing support and services to the community and individuals.
- **Sterling Peyton** – Happy Valley Goose Bay NL. A former federal and provincial public servant, he is active as a volunteer in Happy Valley Goose Bay. A past chairman of the Labrador North Chamber of Commerce, he is also a founding member of the Labrador Canoe Regatta, the Labrador Winter Games and was a member of the board of directors during the bidding process leading up to the awarding of the Canada Winter Games to Corner Brook. He is currently the president of the Labrador North Chamber of Commerce.
- **Earl Ludlow** – Paradise NL. In addition to his position as Executive Vice President of Fortis Inc. (Eastern Canadian and Caribbean operations) and renowned for his participation in the community which he defines as our province, Mr. Ludlow is involved with a significant number of community boards and charities. He is the past chair of the Campaign for Cancer Care which raised 3.1 million dollars. Past Chair of the NL Safety Council, the NL Science Centre, the Board of Regents and Benefits Committee of Memorial University, and a member of the board of the policy advisory committee of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Ludlow also serves as the Honorary Colonel of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.
- **Harry Blackmore** – Paradise NL. Harry Blackmore has served for the past 44 years as a volunteer with ground search and rescue provincially. He was instrumental in the development of the Cardiac Arrest Program and chaired a committee which raised over \$100,000 to provide ambulance operators throughout the province with defibrulators ultimately enhancing first responders lifesaving capabilities. He has served in voluntary capacities as coordinator of the Rovers Search and Rescue team, the Founder and President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Search and Rescue Association and the President of the Search and Rescue Volunteer Association of Canada. Mr. Blackmore has also volunteered with the Canadian Red Cross, the Saint John Ambulance, the Canadian Power and Sail Association, and occasionally as Santa Clause.
- **Frank Tibbo** – Gander. Mr. Tibbo was the first Newfoundlander to graduate from the first organized school for air traffic controllers in Canada. A well-known author, he has had several books published and has earned several writing awards. He has volunteered for many years with the Red Cross, Boy Scouts of Canada, the Canadian Corps of Air Cadet Instructors, a member of the Terra Nova School Board and was co-founder of the Gander Diabetes Association. In addition to his volunteer efforts, Mr. Tibbo helped produce and was featured in a local television program called Milepost 213, where he interviewed approximately 50 pioneers of Gander thus capturing history which otherwise may have been lost.

- **Dr. Janet Gardiner** – (Awarded Posthumously) St. John's. Janet Gardner is an accomplished businessperson, philanthropist and role model. She has served for 6 years as the Chair of MUN's Board of Regents, the first female in that position. She is a Member of The Order of Canada for her "enduring contributions as an executive and volunteer in the business and community sectors of Newfoundland and Labrador. She became the first female chartered accountant in the province in 1956. She has served her church, St. Thomas' Anglican Cathedral, the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, the St. John's Board of Trade, the St. John's Heritage Foundation, the Newfoundland Historic Trust and the St. John's YMCA . She is the recipient of several significant awards in recognition of her service to her community.
- **Dr. W. David Parsons** – St. John's – Dr. Parsons was nominated for his dedication to the preservation and promotion of Newfoundland's Great War History, its medical history and for his service to caring for veterans. He has worked with the Royal Newfoundland Regimental Advisory Committee, The Western Front Association – starting a branch in Newfoundland and Labrador as Chairman. He is also a member of the Gallipolian Association and founded as well as coordinated a Medical History Group that met and consulted regularly for over 30 years. In the late 1990's Dr. Parsons lead a protest with other members of the Western Front Association which brought about the change of the July 1st memorial service being returned to the actual date and not the closest Sunday to the date. He travelled at his own expense in 1990 to Gallipoli and was Walter Tobin (the last survivor of the Battle of Beaumont Hamel) travel companion to Beaumont Hamel in 1991. He has conducted research and corrected information on gravestones that the Commonwealth War Graves has now recognized. He is the founder of the Newfoundland Pipe Band.
- **Dr. Selma Huxley Barkham** - Sussex UK (Honorary) Dr. Barkham is a Canadian historian and geographer who, through her accomplishments has achieved international standing in the fields of the maritime history of Newfoundland and Labrador, of Canada and of the Basque Country. Her years of research, mostly in Basque, Spanish and Portuguese archives where she found thousands of documents relating to the Basque cod fishery and whaling industry in Terra Nova, helped her reconstruct a largely unknown chapter of Newfoundland and Labrador history. This included whaling ports as well as sunken Basque galleons, among them the *San Juan* that was lost during a storm in 1565 and was subsequently refloated in Red Bay, Labrador. The spin-offs from her discoveries in Red Bay and her work on the Northern Peninsula and in southern Labrador continue to have a real and direct economic impact in those areas of Newfoundland and Labrador.