

**Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints
Commission Panel of Adjudicators**

Annual Report 2016-17

Message from the Chief Adjudicator

I am pleased to submit the Annual Activity Report on behalf of the Panel of Adjudicators for the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission for the period April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017.

On April 12, 2017, I was appointed as the Chief Adjudicator for the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission Panel of Adjudicators. As Chief Adjudicator, and in accordance with government's commitment to accountability, I hereby submit the 2016-17 Annual Activity Report which reports on activities of adjudicators. The activity report is submitted in accordance with the entity's obligation as a category three entity under the *Transparency and Accountability Act*. It was prepared under my direction and I accept accountability for the actual results reported on behalf of the entire panel.



Donald Anthony
Chief Adjudicator

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Overview

Part III of the *Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Act, 1992* established the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission which began operating in May 1993. Its purpose is to provide members of the public with an independent forum for their complaints against Royal Newfoundland Constabulary officers.

Section 29 of the *Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Act, 1992* provides for the appointment of a panel of 12 lawyers to serve the Commission as adjudicators with one being named as Chief Adjudicator. During fiscal year 2016-17, the following individuals served on the panel:

Mr. John McGrath, Q.C., Chief Adjudicator
Mr. Shawn C.A. Colbourne
Ms. Kimberly D. Burrige
Mr. Neil F. Pittman
Ms. Kate O'Brien
Ms. Gladys Dunne
Ms. Kimberley Horwood
Ms. Kerry R. Hatfield
Mr. Dean A. Porter
Mr. James J. Smyth, Q.C.
Ms. Sheilagh M. Murphy

As per Section 28 of the *Act*, the Commissioner will forward matters to the Chief Adjudicator when a public hearing is deemed necessary. The Chief Adjudicator will hear the matter or assign it to another adjudicator. Hearings are considered public; however, if it is considered by the adjudicator that any of the reasons outlined in Section 32 of the *Act* apply, all or part of the hearing may be held in private.

Activity

Issue – Inquiring into Complaints

An adjudicator has the powers of a commissioner appointed under the *Public Inquiries Act, 2006* when holding a hearing. These powers require that hearings be held without delay giving full opportunity to all parties to present evidence and make representations in person or through counsel. At times, there are matters which are particularly complex and take time to conclude. This is necessary to ensure a thorough review of facts and fairness to all parties.

Objective: Upon referral of a matter, the Adjudicator will have held public hearings to inquire into all matters referred to him or her and give full opportunity for the presentation of evidence.

Measure: Hearings held

Indicators	Results
Number of hearings held as required by the <i>Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Act, 1992</i> .	There were no hearings required by the <i>Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Act, 1992</i> .
Number of decisions issued within three months of hearings.	As there were no hearings, there were no decisions required.

Financial Report

The Panel of Adjudicators does not have a separate budget. Expenses are captured under the budget of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Public Complaints Commission. For fiscal year 2016-17, no expenditures were required for the Panel of Adjudicators.