



St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority  
Activity Plan

**Fiscal Years 2020-23**





## Chairperson's Message

### Government of Newfoundland and Labrador St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority

Honourable Elvis Loveless  
Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture  
Petten Building  
30 Strawberry Marsh Road  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister Loveless:

In accordance with the provisions of the **Transparency and Accountability Act** for category 3 public bodies, I am pleased to submit the Activity Plan for the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority. This activity plan meets the requirements of the **Transparency and Accountability Act** for a Category 3 entity and covers the period from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2023.

The strategic directions of Government related to the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (formerly the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources) have been considered in the creation of this activity plan. More specifically, the work undertaken in this plan will assist in reaching the target to increase Newfoundland and Labrador's food self-sufficiency in non-supply managed commodities to at least 20 per cent by 2022. In addition, the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority has considered the potential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. As the members are all government employees, there are minimal impacts on operations.

My signature below is on behalf of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority and indicative of the authority's accountability for the preparation of the plan and achievement of its objective.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeremy Short".

Jeremy Short  
Chairperson

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# 1. Overview

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The St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority (Authority) was created to review applications regarding development within the St. John's Agricultural Development Area (ADA) as per the **St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area Regulations** under the **Lands Act**.

There are approximately 12,152 hectares of land within the St. John's Urban Region ADA that fall within seven municipalities on the North East Avalon: St. John's, Conception Bay South, Logy Bay-Middle Cove-Outer Cove, Portugal Cove-St. Phillip's, Flatrock, Torbay and Pouch Cove.

Section 3 (3) and (4) of the Regulations provides for the appointment of the Authority by the Minister of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture.

The number and timing of applications received will dictate the meeting schedule of the Authority, however the board typically meets six times per year.

The Authority is made up of at least five members, including a Chairperson and a Secretary. Members of the Authority are made up from various provincial government departments that have a role in land use planning. All members are regionally located within the North East Avalon with the exception of the Chairperson.

Audited financial statements are not required as the Authority is budgeted through the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources. There are no revenues, per diems, travel or other costs associated with the administration of the Authority.

The current Committee includes:

Position	Name	Organization	Region
Chairperson	Jeremy Short	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture	Western
Secretary	Megan Nichols	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture	Eastern
Member	John Del Rizzo	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture	Eastern
Member	Teri Smith	Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture	Eastern
Technical Support	Kim Blanchard	Department of Environment, Climate Change and Municipalities	Eastern
Technical Support	Karen Tucker	Department of Digital Government and Service NL	Eastern

All members of the Authority are Government of Newfoundland and Labrador employees requiring no remuneration.

For further information contact: Megan Nichols, Land Management Officer, Brookfield Road (T) 729-6647.

## **2. Mandate**

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The Authority has a mandate to:

- (a) Review applications to carry out development on land within the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area;
- (b) Inform municipalities of decisions made;
- (c) Monitor activities within the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area; and
- (d) Ensure awareness of the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area and associated regulations.

## **3. Lines of Business**

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The St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority has not identified separate Lines of Business, as this would be repetitive of its Mandate.

## **4. Primary Clients**

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The clients of the Authority are individuals or organizations who apply through the municipal councils of the City of St. John's, Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's, Town of Pouch Cove, Town of Flatrock, Town of Torbay, Town of Logy Bay-Middle Cove-Outer Cove, and the Town of Conception Bay South to carry out development on land in the St. John's ADA.

## **5. Vision**

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Through assessment of applications for development activities on land in the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area, the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Advisory Authority contributes to the vision of Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, that of sustainable renewable resources that are responsibly developed for the social, cultural, ecological, and economic well-being of the province.

## 6. Objective

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The Authority reviews applications for all proposed developments within the boundaries of the St. John's ADA in accordance to the regulations. Applications are submitted to the local municipality and forwarded to the authority. All applications are given due consideration under the regulations and are either approved or refused according to the level of agricultural impact. The decision is forwarded to the municipality who then notifies the applicant. In the case of a refusal by the Authority, the applicant may appeal in writing to the Board within thirty (30) days after the applicant is notified by the municipality of the decision by the Authority.

As the focus of Authority will remain the same for the entire plan, the Authority will report on the same objective and indicators in all three years.

**Objective:** By March 31, 2021, the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority will have worked to ensure development activities in the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area are compliant with the Act and Regulations, thus supporting ongoing, sustainable agricultural development in the area.

**Indicators:**

- Reviewed all applications
- Rendered decisions
- Maintained records of decisions
- Communicated decisions to municipalities within 30 days.
- Monitored development activities for compliance with Regulations.

# Appendix A

