

St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority

ACTIVITY PLAN

April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008



Chairperson's Message

February 29, 2008

Honourable Kathy Dunderdale
Minister of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Building
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

In accordance with the provisions of the *Transparency and Accountability Act for category 3 entities*, I am pleased to submit the transition year Performance-Based Activity Plan for the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority. This Plan covers the period April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008. The subsequent plan will be from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2011.

The Authority recognizes the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, and is committed to its supporting role to ensure that plans for development within the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area conform with the provisions of the *St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area Regulations under the Lands Act*.

The Authority has reviewed all strategic directions from the Minister of Natural Resources. It has prepared this plan to be consistent with those directions.

My signature below is on behalf of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority and indicative of the Authority's accountability for the achievement of the goal contained in this plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Granville Martin
Chairperson

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Overview

Section 3 (3)(4) of the St. John's Agriculture Development Area Regulations under the Lands Act provides for the appointment of a St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority. The Authority is to be appointed by the Minister. The Authority must have at least five people including a Chairperson and a Secretary. The Authority may include representatives from the Agrifoods Development Branch, the Forestry Branch, the Department of Municipal Affairs, the Department of Environment and Conservation and a member of the community.

The Authority presently consists of the following members:

Granville Martin – Chairperson, Land Management Specialist, Forestry & Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

Raymond Tucker – Secretary, Development Control Officer, Land Resource Stewardship Division, Forestry & Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

Elaine Mitchell -- Manager of Planning Services, Department of Municipal Affairs.

Kevin King – Manager of Operations, Department of Government Services.

Vacant – Agricultural Representative, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, Department of Natural Resources.

Mandate

The St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority was established to consider applications for land development in the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area Regulations as defined by *the Lands Act*. The Authority may approve and issues permits or notices of approval, refuse applications, cancel permits and exercise other powers necessary to assess land development applications under the regulations.

Values of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

The St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority performs its duties within the core values established by the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency:

Integrity - Each individual will be honest, dependable, fair, credible and trustworthy. They will openly acknowledge mistakes, seek to correct them and learn from them.

Respect and Professionalism - Each individual will apply departmental legislation and policies equitably to stakeholders. They will serve our client groups to the fullest extent possible.

Timeliness - Each individual will meet specified deadlines in accordance with departmental priorities and follow through on their commitments.

Collaboration - Each individual will seek the opinions and ideas of others in the application of departmental legislation and policies.

Innovation - Each individual will demonstrate initiative and flexibility in responding to challenges and change.

Primary Clients

The clients of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority are members of the general public who apply to develop land in the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area.

Vision and Mission

Given its primary clients, the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, by ensuring that land development in the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Development Area proceeds in a sustainable manner.

Vision of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

The vision of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, is of a province that is realizing the full benefit from its forestry and agrifoods resources in a sustainable manner.

Mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

The Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency, promotes and facilitates the sustainable development of the province's forestry and agrifoods resources through sustainable resource development and development activities for the overall benefit of the citizens and Newfoundland and Labrador.

The mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency is as follows:

By 2011, the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency will have:

- (i) implemented programs necessary to sustain the province's forest ecosystems;
- (ii) identified and facilitated further opportunities for sustainable agriculture and agrifoods resource development; and
- (iii) optimized the benefits received from these resources.

This is a partial statement of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency's mission. For a complete mission statement, please refer to the 2006 to 2008 Strategic Plan for the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency.

Goal

Issue: Agrifoods Sector Economy

Introduction: The St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority reviews applications for all proposed developments within the boundaries of the Development Area in accordance to the regulations. Applications are submitted to the local municipality and forwarded to the Authority on the appropriate forms. Applications are reviewed by the Authority provided there is a quorum of three members including the Chairperson and Secretary. All applications are given due consideration under the regulations and are either approved or refused according to same. The applicant(s) are notified by the municipality of the decision of the Authority. In the case of a refusal, the applicant may appeal in writing to the Minister within thirty (30) days after the applicant is notified of the decision by the Authority.

Goal: By March 31, 2008 the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority will have carried out its functions under the applicable *Act and Regulations*.

Measure: Carried out responsibilities

Indicators:

- All applications reviewed
- Applications registry updated to reflect decisions
- Decisions communicated to applicants

Conclusion

The St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority is committed to supporting the mandate of the Minister of Natural Resources and will continue to do its part to further the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency.

Appendix A

Strategic Directions

Strategic directions are the articulation of desired physical, social or economic outcomes and normally require action by more than one government entity. These directions are generally communicated by government through platform documents, Throne and Budget Speeches, policy documents and other communiqués. 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.

Title: Sustainable Resource Development

Strategic Direction: From the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency’s strategic plan

Outcome: Effective and efficient management of our natural resources to ensure they are utilized in a sustainable manner such that the resources and the economic benefits from these resources are optimized. This outcome supports direction as outlined in Government’s 2003 Policy Document and the 2004 and 2005 Speech from the Throne.”

Focus Areas of the Strategic Direction	Being addressed by other entities reporting to the Minister	This Direction is addressed in the Committee’s Activity Plan
	2. Agrifoods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Agricultural Production • Secondary Processing and Diversification • Land Development and Sustainability • Research and Development • Food Safety and Quality 	* * * *