

St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board

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 three entities, I am pleased to submit a transition year Performance-Based Activity Plan for the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board. This Plan covers the period April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008.

The Board 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 appeals concerning decisions of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority conform with the provisions of the *St. John's Urban Region Agricultural Development Area Regulations* under the *Lands Act*.

The Board 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 Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board and indicative of the Board's accountability for the achievement of the goal contained in this plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Jean Roberts
Chairperson

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Overview

Section 7 of the St. John's Urban Region Agricultural Development Area Regulations under the Lands Act provides for the appointment of an appeal board to review decisions of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority. The Appeal Board, also known as the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board, is to be appointed by the Minister. The Board must have at least three people.

The Authority now consists of Ms. Mary Jean Roberts, Chairperson, Ms. Mary Bishop, Member and Mr. Peter Morris, Member.



Mandate

The St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board was established to hear appeals of the decisions of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority concerning applications for land development in the Agricultural Development Area of the St. John's Urban Region as defined by *the Lands Act*. The Board may recommend that the Minister of Natural Resources uphold, reverse or vary a decision of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority, and record in a minute book the attendance and proceedings of the board at all appeal hearings.

Values of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency

The St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board 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.

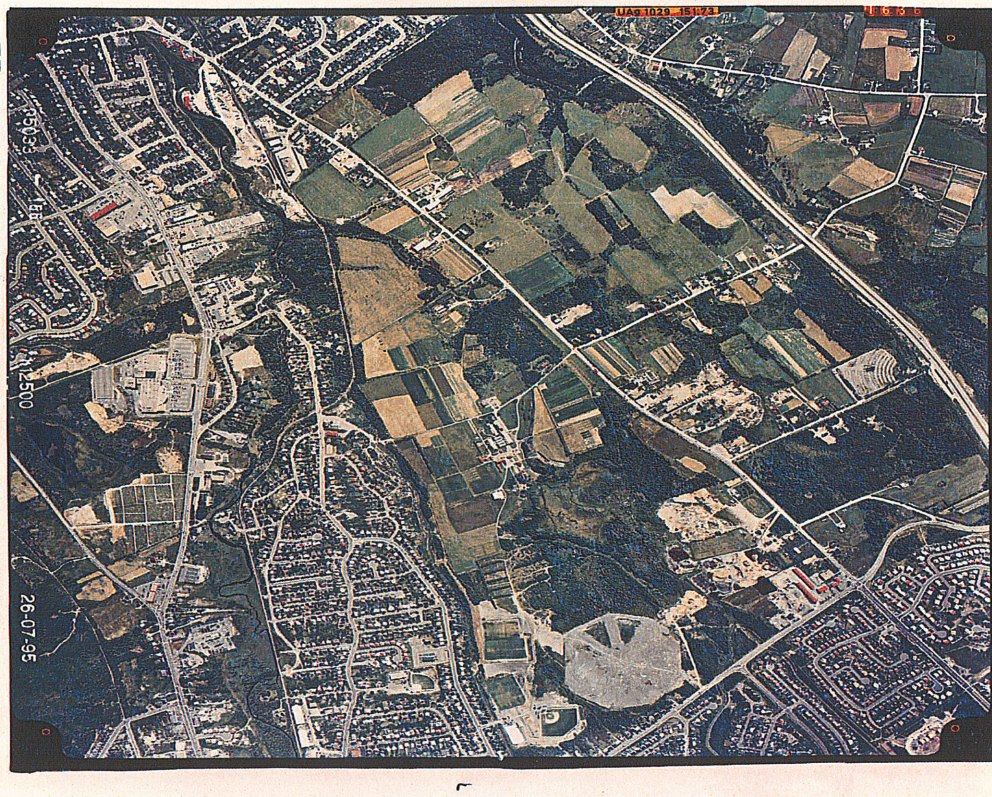
Timeliness - Each individual will meet specified deadlines in accordance with departmental priorities and follow through on their commitments.

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 Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board are members of the general public who apply through the municipal council of the City of St. John's, Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philips, 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 develop land in the Agricultural Development Area of the St. John's Urban Region and wish to appeal a decision of the St. John's Land Development Advisory Authority.



Vision and Mission

Given its primary clients, the St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board contributes to the vision and mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency by ensuring that land development in the agricultural development area of the St. John's urban region 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.

Goals

Issue: Agrifoods Sector Economy

Goal: By March 31, 2008 the St. John's Urban Region Appeal Board will have carried out its functions under the applicable *Act and Regulations*.

Measure: Carried out responsibilities

Indicators:

- All appeal applications reviewed
- Minutes of proceedings recorded
- Recommendations made to the Minister of Natural Resources

Conclusion

The St. John's Urban Region Agriculture Appeal Board 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 government 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 	* * * *	*