

Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

Annual Performance Report

April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011





Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

Chairperson's Message

Honourable Jerome Kennedy
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 public bodies, I am pleased to submit the Annual Performance Report for the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority.

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority was successful in achieving all indicators of its objectives for the reporting period. The Authority was also successful in furthering the Strategic Directions of the Minister of Natural Resources to improve sustainable resource development for the long term benefit of residents of the province and to increase agrifoods and agriculture development and diversification.

My signature below is on behalf of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority and is indicative of the Authority's accountability for the preparation of this Report and for the results reported on its activities for 2010-2011.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. MacDonald".

Cynthia MacDonald, P.Ag
Chairperson

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Overview

Section 3 of the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area Regulations under the Lands Act provides for the appointment of a Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority. The Authority is to be appointed by the Minister. The Authority must have at least five people which will include a Chairperson and a Secretary. The Authority may include the Regional Agricultural Supervisor (Director) as Chairperson, a representative from the Forestry Services Branch, Department of Natural Resources, representatives from the Agrifoods Development Branch, Department of Natural Resources, officers or staff from other resource Departments.

The current membership at the Wooddale Land Development Authority is:

Ms. Cynthia MacDonald, Chairperson, Department of Natural Resources
Mr. William Snow, Secretary, Department of Natural Resources
Ms. Stephanie Ganz, Agrifoods Branch, Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Bill Rowsell, Agrifoods Branch, Department of Natural Resources
Mr. Roger Primmer, Lands Branch, Department of Environment and Conservation
Mr. Jason Pond, Forestry Branch, Department of Natural Resources.

Contact Information:

Contact: Mr. William Snow, Land Management Officer, Pynns Brook (T) 686-2702.

Mandate:

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority was established to consider applications for land development in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area 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. For further details, please refer to Section 57 of the Lands Act; Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area, Order in Council 96-181.

Values:

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority performs its duties within the following core values: integrity, respect and professionalism, collaboration, innovation, safety, productivity and timelines.

Clients:

The clients of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority are members of the general public who apply to develop land in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area.

Vision:

Through assessment of applications for opportunities to develop land in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the vision of the Department of Natural Resources, stated as follows:

“The vision of the Department of Natural Resources is a province that realizes the full benefit from the sustainable development of its natural resources.”

Mission:

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority considered its role in assisting the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency in achieving its mission for the planning period. The Authority has a role in identifying and facilitating opportunities for agricultural and agrifoods resource development and diversification by making recommendations on applications for land development in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area under the regulations to ensure development is consistent with agricultural purposes. As such, aspects of the following general statement from the mission of the Agency related to agriculture and agrifoods sectors apply to the Authority.

“By March 31, 2012, the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency will have: implemented programs necessary to sustain the province’s forest ecosystems; identified and facilitated further opportunities for sustainable agriculture and agrifoods resource development; and optimized the benefits received from these resources.” The Authority determined that it

has no material impact on achievement of measures and indicators of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency's mission statement.

The complete mission of the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency is found in its strategic plan for the period covering April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2011. The Agency's progress toward achievement of its mission and associated measures and indicators is included in its annual performance report for 2010-11. Both documents can be found on the Department of Natural Resources' website at: www.gov.nl.ca/nr.

Budget:

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority receives extensive operational support from the Forestry and Agrifoods Agency. Employees of the Agency perform many day to day administrative functions. Budgetary support for operations is provided through the Agency as well.

Activities

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority contributes to the strategic directions of the Department in respect to the sustainable land development by reviewing applications for land development in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area pursuant to the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area Regulations.

The Wooddale 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 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 of the decision of the Authority in a timely manner. 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.

During 2010-11, the activities of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority supported government's strategic direction to sustain agriculture and agrifoods development by contributing to agrifoods sector management. Activities also supported the strategic direction to increase agrifoods and agriculture development and diversification by overseeing land development activities in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area, thus supporting agriculture production in the area.

Objective: By March 31, 2011, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority will have processed applications for land development in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area under the applicable *Acts* and Regulations.

Measure: Processed applications.

Indicators:

- Reviewed all applications
- Updated applications registry to reflect decisions
- Communicated decisions to applicants in a timely manner

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority received and reviewed 2 applications for farm related developments within the Wooddale area. Both applications were approved. The applicants were informed of the decisions of the Authority in a timely manner. The Secretary of the Authority maintained and updated the registry of the applications.

The objectives, measures and indicators are derived from the 2008-2011 Activity Plan of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority which is available from Mr. William Snow (686-2702), Secretary of the Authority. The Activity Plan is available on the Department of Natural Resources' website at: www.gov.nl.ca/nr.

Opportunities and Challenges

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority expects a similar number of applications as in previous years. It is anticipated the approval of new Crown land applications will result in the review and anticipated approval of a number of conveyances by the Authority. This provides an opportunity for the Authority to facilitate the continued growth of the agriculture industry in the Wooddale (Agriculture) Development Area.

Financial Statements

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

Conclusions

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority is committed to fulfilling its mandate and will continue to do its part to further the vision and mission of the Department of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agrifoods Agency.