

Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority

Activity Plan

Fiscal Years 2017-2020



Chairperson's Message

Honourable Steve Crocker
Minister
Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
Petten Building
30 Strawberry Marsh Road
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL
A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

In accordance with the *Transparency and Accountability Act*, I am pleased to submit the Performance-Based Activity Plan for the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority, as a category 3 public body. This activity plan meets the requirements of the *Transparency and Accountability Act* for a Category 3 entity and covers the period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020.

The Authority has a mandate to ensure that plans for development within the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area conform with the provisions of the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Regulations under the *Lands Act*.

The strategic directions of Government related to the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources, including those outlined in **The Way Forward**, have been considered in 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 from its current 10 per cent to at least 20 per cent by 2022.

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 plan and the achievement of its annual objective.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia MacDonald, P. Ag.
Chairperson

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1. Overview

Section 3 (3) and Section 3 (4) 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 a representative of the Agriculture and Lands Branch as Chairperson; a representative from the Forestry and Wildlife Branch, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources; representatives from the Agriculture and Lands Branch, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources; and officers or staff from other resource Departments.

The Authority presently consists of the following members:

Cynthia MacDonald – Chairperson, Director of Agriculture Business Development Division, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

William Snow – Secretary, Land Management Officer, Lands Management Division, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

Jennifer Eustace – Land Management Specialist, Lands Management Division, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

Bill Rowsell – Agricultural Development Officer, Agriculture Business Development Division, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

Jason Pond – District Ecosystem Manager, Regional Services Division, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

Rodger Primmer – Regional Lands Manager, Crown Lands Division, Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority consists of employees of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador by virtue of their position and receives extensive operational support from the Department of Fisheries and Land Resources. Employees of the Department perform many day to day administrative functions. There are no per diems, travel or other expenses associated with the administration of the WLDAA. Budgetary support for operations is provided through the Department as well. The Authority meets on average six to eight times per fiscal year and often by teleconferencing.

2. Mandate

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority was established to consider applications for development activities in the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area as defined by the Lands Act and as further described in Section 3 (3) and Section 3 (4) of the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area Regulations. A map of the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area is included in Appendix A. The Authority may approve and issue permits or notices of approval, refuse applications, cancel permits and exercise other powers necessary to assess land development applications under the regulations.

For more detail on the regulations, please refer to the House of Assembly web site at: <http://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc961079.htm>.

3. Core Values and Guiding Principles

The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority performs its duties within the following core values and guiding principles:

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 legislation and policies equitably and will serve the Authority's client groups to the fullest extent possible.

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

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

Safety - Each individual views the personal safety of themselves and co-workers in the highest regard and will promote workplace safety at all times.

Productive – Each individual will maximize their productivity and efficiency in carrying out their duties.

Timely – Each individual will conduct their duties in a timely manner and meet all established deadlines.

4. Primary Clients

The clients of the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority are agricultural landowners in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area and members of the general public who apply to undertake development activities in the Wooddale Agriculture Development Area.

5. Objective

The Wooddale Agricultural Development Area Regulations were established to support ongoing sustainable agricultural development in the area. The Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority reviews applications for all proposed developments within the boundaries of the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area in accordance with 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.

The following issue has been identified as the key priority of the Authority for the three year period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020.

Issue: Development in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area

Objective: By March 31, 2018, the Wooddale Land Development Advisory Authority will have worked to ensure development activities in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area are compliant with the *Act* and Regulations, thus supporting ongoing, sustainable agricultural development in the area.

Indicators:

- Reviewed all applications and rendered decisions
- Updated applications registry to reflect decisions
- Communicated decisions to applicants in a timely manner
- Monitored development activities for compliance with regulations
- Communicated requirements for development in the Wooddale Agricultural Development Area, as per the regulations, to all landowners in the development area

Area Map

